

CHAPTER III.

FIRST SETTLERS WEST OF THE ALLEGHANIES.

PREVIOUS to 1749, Western Virginia was untrodden by the foot of white man, if we except an occasional trader, who may have ventured upon the heads of some of the tributary streams which take their rise in the Alleghany Mountains.

Some time during this year, a man laboring under aberration of intellect, wandered from Frederick county into the wilderness of the Greenbriar country. Although a supposed lunatic, there seemed yet enough of "method in his madness," to tell his friends, on returning home, that he had discovered rivers flowing in a contrary direction to those of the Valley. His description of the country soon induced some to visit it, among whom were Jacob Martin and Stephen Sewell. These men settled on the Greenbriar river, where they built a cabin; but soon disagreeing about some trivial matter, Sewell left his companion, and took up his abode in a hollow tree. In the Spring of 1751, when Andrew Lewis visited the country as agent for the Greenbriar Company, he discovered the lonely pioneers in the deep seclusion of their mountain home. Upon inquiry as to the cause of their estrangement, the gallant Lewis soon reconciled matters, but only for a brief time, as Sewell shortly afterwards removed farther into the wilderness, where he fell a victim to Indian barbarity.

Further attempts to colonize the Greenbriar country were not made for many years. John Lewis, and his son Andrew, proceeded with their explorations, until interrupted by the

breaking out of the French war. In 1762, a few families began to penetrate the region on Muddy creek, and the Big Levels; but a royal proclamation of the next year, commanded that all who had settled, or held improvements on the Western waters, should at once remove, as the claim of the Indians had not been extinguished; and it was most important to preserve their friendship, in order to prevent them coalescing with the French.¹ Those families already in the enjoyment of their improvements, refused to comply with the King's mandate, and most of them were cut off by the savages in 1763-4.² From the date of those occurrences, up to 1769, the Greenbriar country contained not a single white settlement. In that year, Captain John Stuart, with a number of others, made improvements, which they continued to hold despite every effort of the Indians to dispossess them.³ Seven years later, (1776) settlements were made on New river. The lands taken up in this region, being held by what were known as "*corn rights*"—whoever planted an acre of corn, acquired a title to one hundred acres of land.⁴

¹ This proclamation contained among its provisions, the following, in reference to the settlements in Western Virginia.

"And we do further strictly enjoin and require all persons whatsoever, who have either willfully or inadvertently seated themselves upon any lands within the countries above described, or upon any other lands, which, not having been ceded to or purchased by us, are still reserved to the said Indians as aforesaid, forthwith to remove themselves from such settlements." &c. (See Land Laws, p. 86.)

² Washington, in his Journal, speaks of having met at the house of Mr. Frazier, mouth of Turtle creek, January 1st, 1754, twenty warriors, who had started for the South to war; "but coming to a place on the head of the Great Kanawha, where they found seven people killed and scalped, they turned about and ran back, for fear the inhabitants should rise and take them as the authors of the murder."

³ Withers, 48.

⁴ Ibid.

CHAPTER IV.

LAND OPERATORS IN THE WEST.

TIME had scarcely been allowed to dry the ink on the signatures to the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, ere the British government proceeded to carry out one of its well matured plans for forestalling the movements of the French, and taking immediate possession of the country lying west of the Mountains, and east of the Ohio. This scheme was the formation by an act of Parliament, of a great landed corporation, which was designed to check the encroachments of France, despoil the Indians of their inheritance, and secure permanent possession of the valley of the Ohio.

We will quote from Sparks, the nature, &c., of this corporation. In 1749, Thomas Lee, one of His Majesty's Council in Virginia, formed the design of effecting settlements on the wild lands west of the Alleghany Mountains. * * * With the view of carrying his plan into operation, Mr. Lee associated himself with twelve other persons in Virginia and Maryland, and with Mr. Hanbury, a merchant in London, who formed what they called "THE OHIO COMPANY." Five hundred thousand acres of land were granted almost in the terms requested by the company, to be "taken on the south side of the Ohio river, between the Monongahela and Kanawha rivers. Two hundred thousand acres were to be located at once, and held for ten years free of quit-rent, provided one hundred families were settled on it within seven years, and a fort erected of suitable strength to protect the inhabitants." This may be considered the first decisive step on the part of the English, to take possession of the country bordering the

Ohio river. Other companies were organized about the same time by the colonial authorities of Virginia, under direct instruction from the mother country. Of these, were the Greenbriar Company, with a grant of 100,000 acres; and the *Loyal* Company, incorporated on the 12th June, 1740, with a grant for 800,000 acres, from the "Ohio [JUNE 12th.] of Canada, North and West." The British Ministry had evidently become alarmed at what they were pleased to term the encroachments of the French; and it was to forestall their movements by throwing into the disputed territory an "armed neutrality," in the shape of several hundred American families, that made the English Government and its Virginia agents, so solicitous to colonize the regions of the West. We will revert to this subject in another chapter, and now resume the thread of our narrative.

Early in 1750, the Ohio Company sent out Christopher Gist on an exploring expedition. He is represented to have crossed from the south branch of the Potomac, to the headwaters of the Juniata; thence to the Alleghany, crossing that river a few miles above where Pittsburgh now stands. Descending the Ohio to the mouth of Beaver, he went up that stream, thence across to the Muskingum, and down to the Miami. After an absence of several months, he returned to the Kanawha, and made a thorough examination of the country lying east of that river and south of the Ohio.¹

In 1751, as already stated, Andrew Lewis, afterwards so distinguished in the military annals of our State, commenced a survey of the Greenbriar tract. The movements of both these agents, however, had been closely watched, and information conveyed to the French, who by this time had fully got

¹ It was during this exploration that an Indian Chief met Gist, and on ascertaining the object of his visit to the country, inquired, with the most withering irony, "Where lay the Indians' lands; the French claim all on one side of the river, and the English all on the other?" *Sparks's History*, vol. 1, 2d.

their eyes open as to the policy and designs of the English. Determined to maintain their rights, and to assert their claim to the country bordering the Ohio, the French crossed Lake Champlain, built Crown Point, and without delay proceeded to fortify certain other positions on the waters of the upper Ohio. With this view, they erected a fort at Presque Ile, on Lake Erie; another about fifteen miles distant, which they called Le Bœuf; and a third, at the mouth of French Creek, now Venango. But lest, while these little fortresses were quietly rising in the wilderness, the English might attempt corresponding means for defence, a company of soldiers was despatched by the French Commandant, with positive orders to keep intruders out of the valley of the Ohio; but to use no violence, "except in case of obstinate continuance, and then to seize their goods."¹

This party doubtless heard of the movements of Gist, and the presence of English traders on the Miami. Thither they directed their steps and demanded that the intruders should leave, or be given up as trespassers upon French soil.

The traders refusing to depart, and the Indians being unwilling to give them up, a fight ensued, in which fourteen of the Twigtees or Miamas were killed, and the traders, four in number, taken prisoners.²

This occurred early in 1752, as the Indians referred to the fact at the treaty of Logstown, in June. It may justly be

¹ We quote from a rare old book entitled, "A Memorial, containing a Summary View of Facts with their Authorities, in answer to the Observations sent by the English Ministry to the Courts of Europe." 1757.

This work clearly shows that it was the aggressive policy of England that brought on a war, the effects of which were felt from the shores of the Ohio to the banks of the Ganges.

² In all the works heretofore consulted, the number of traders taken prisoners has been stated at two; but the author of "A Memorial," &c. says they were four and gives their names, viz.: Luke Arrowin, (Irvin) J. ...

WEST VIRGINIA.

BY

VIRGIL A. LEWIS, A.M.,

Ex-State Superintendent Free Schools; Member Trans-Allegheny Historical Society; Member American Historical Association: Author of a "General History of West Virginia," "The Story of the Louisiana Purchase," etc.

NEW CENTURY EDITION.

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

OF

WEST VIRGINIA.

FROM PREHISTORIC TIMES TO THE PERMANENT
SETTLEMENT OF WHITE MEN IN THE STATE.

PART I.

HISTORY OF WEST VIRGINIA.

CHAPTER I.

A GEOGRAPHICAL AND PHYSICAL VIEW.

1. **Geographical Position of the State.**—West Virginia lies chiefly on the western slope of the Appalachian Mountain System, and is situated between $37^{\circ} 6'$ and $40^{\circ} 38'$ north latitude, and between $0^{\circ} 40'$ and $5^{\circ} 35'$ longitude west from Washington. It is territorially bounded on the north by Ohio, Pennsylvania and Maryland; on the east, by Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia; on the south, by Virginia and Kentucky, and on the west, by Kentucky and Ohio.

✓ **2. Description of Boundary Lines.**—West Virginia is the most irregular in shape of all the States of the American Union. Why this is so, will appear as we progress in the study of its history. No legal description of its boundary lines has been prepared, but may be given thus: Beginning at a point on the summit of the Blue Ridge, one mile east of Harper's Ferry, where the Potomac breaks through that mountain barrier; thence with the said river to the mouth of the South Branch thereof; thence with the meanderings of the North Branch to its source or first fountain, thence with the meridian passing through the said first fountain due north to the southern boundary of Pennsylvania; thence due west to the southwest corner of Pennsylvania, and thence due north to the low water mark on the west bank of the Ohio river; thence with the said low water mark along the Ohio, to the mouth of the Big Sandy river; thence with that river and Tug Fork thereof, to the mouth of Knox Creek; thence to the western extremity of the dividing ridge now separating Virginia and West Virginia, and thence with the lines separating the several adjoining counties of the two States to the place of beginning. To travel around the state by the boundary thus described, would require a journey of 1,170 miles.

✓ **3. Extent and Area of the State.**—The total area of the state is 24,715 square miles, of which 135 square miles are water surface. This area is almost twenty times that of Rhode Island; twelve times that of Delaware; five times that of Connecticut; three

times that of Massachusetts, and more than twice that of Maryland. The longest straight line that can be drawn across the State is that between a point on the Blue Ridge, one mile east of Harper's Ferry, and Virginia Point, at the mouth of Big Sandy river; it measures $274\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The longest line that can be drawn through the State from north to south, if extended from the northern limit of Hancock county to a point on Dividing Ridge, on the southern border of McDowell county, would measure 245 miles.

X 4. **Physical Features of West Virginia.**—West Virginia is often called the "Little Mountain State." This is due to the presence of the western ridges of the Appalachian Mountain System, which extend



MOUNTAIN SCENE IN RANDOLPH COUNTY.

parallel through the eastern part of the State. These mountains are grouped under the general term of Alleghanies, but are known by various local names in different parts of the State: as the Greenbrier, Peters', Big Clear, the Yew Pine, the Gauley, the Black, the Rich, the Cheat, the South Fork, the North

Fork, the Jersey, the North mountains and others. Amid the lofty elevations the scenery rivals in grandeur and beauty any to be found elsewhere on the continent, or, perhaps, in the world. For this reason the

State is frequently spoken of as the "Switzerland of America."

X 5. **The Plateau Region of West Virginia.**—The mountain elevations around the sources of the Tug, Twelve Pole, Guyandotte and Cole rivers in the counties of Mingo, Logan, McDowell, Wyoming and Raleigh, are but a northern continuation of the Cumberland range of Tennessee and Kentucky, and they stand upon the Cumberland Plateau, which extends northward centrally through West Virginia, to the southern boundary of Pennsylvania. Upon this elevation lies all the hilly portion between the mountains and the Ohio river. This is the most extensive region of the State; its general character is that of vast ranges of hills with ever recurring valleys and ever changing scenes.

X 6. **Elevation Above Sea Level.**—The altitude of a country is a subject of much interest, for it not only determines in a great measure, the climatic conditions and products, but largely, the character of the inhabitants. The following elevations have been ascertained by the United States Geological Survey and may therefore be taken as accurate. At the mouth of Big Sandy river, the altitude is 510 feet above the Gulf of Mexico; at Wheeling, 645 feet; at the source of the Twelve Pole river, 997 feet; at Harper's Ferry, 279 feet above Chesapeake Bay; at the mouth of Tygart's Valley river, 875 feet; Loudoun Heights, Jefferson county, 1,000 feet; Little North Mountains, Berkeley county, 1,000 feet; Sleepy Creek Mountains, between Berkeley and Morgan counties, 1,500 feet; Mann

Knob, Wayne county, 1,437 feet; Powell Knob, Gilmer county, 1,460 feet; Bragg Knob, Clay county, 1,674 feet; High Knob, Braxton county, 1,720 feet; Milan Ridge, Wyoming county, 2,500 feet; East River Mountain and Stoney Ridge, Mercer county, 2,500 feet; Mitchell Ridge, Raleigh county, 3,000 feet; Flat Top Mountain, between Raleigh and Mercer counties, 3,500 feet; Swope's Knob, Monroe county, 3,000 feet; Big Sewell mountains, Payette county, 3,500 feet; South Branch mountain, Hardy county, 3,000 feet; Keeney's Knob, Summers county, 3,955 feet; Cold Knob, Greenbrier county, 4,318 feet; High Knob, Randolph county, 4,710 feet; Spruce Knob, Pocahontas county, 4,730 feet; Spruce Knob, Pendleton county, 4,860 feet. The latter is the greatest elevation yet determined in the State.

X 7. **The Rivers of West Virginia.**—The whole of the State lies within the Mississippi basin, except the counties of Berkeley, Morgan, Jefferson, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, Grant and Pendleton, which lie east of the mountains and belong to the Atlantic Slope drainage. All of the State west of the mountains, is drained into the Ohio by the Big Sandy, Twelve Pole, Guyandotte, Great Kanawha, Little Kanawha and Monongahela rivers, with smaller streams, all of which flow in a northwest direction. The Big Sandy river forms the boundary between West Virginia and Kentucky. The Great Kanawha has its source in western North Carolina, and its upper course above its junction with the Gauley river, is known as New River; its principal tributaries are the Greenbrier, the

Gauley, the Elk, the Coal* and Pocatalico rivers. The principal tributary of the Little Kanawha is Hughes' river which was once called Junius' river. The Monongahela, in its course, receives the waters of the Cheat and Tygart's Valley rivers. That portion of the State east of the mountains, is drained by the South Branch of the Potomac, the Opequon and Cacapon rivers and several smaller streams.

8. Source of Six Rivers.—From the lofty apex of the mountain region which connects the counties of



BIRTHPLACE OF RIVERS.

Pocahontas, Randolph and Pendleton, flow six beautiful mountain rivers, five of which drain the principal part of the State. These are the South Branch of the Potomac, Cheat river, the Tygart's

Valley river, the Elk river, the Greenbrier river and Jackson's river, the latter of which has its

*The statement that this river was named for Samuel Cole and should be spelled C o-l-e is a mistake. In 1742, John Peter Salley with John Howard, Josiah Howard and Charles St. Clair, left Augusta county, Virginia; crossed the mountains; descended New River to Richmond Falls; thence traveled westward to another river which they descended, and because "In those mountains we found great plenty of coals * * * we named it *Coal River*," and such it is today. From the mouth of the Great Kanawha they descended the Ohio which had been discovered by the

source beyond the State line and flows away to join the historic James river of Virginia. Each of the five rivers flowing through West Virginia has its first fountain on the highest elevation of the Alleghanies and two of them find their way to mingle their waters with those of Chesapeake Bay, whilst three of them by way of the Ohio and Mississippi, discharge their waters into the Gulf of Mexico. This mountain elevation may be called the "Birthplace of Rivers."

X 9. Where Our History has been Made.—It was here in the valleys of the rivers of West Virginia, upon the hills and amid the mountain fastnesses, that the events which go to make up the history of our State, have taken place. And we are now to learn of them, that hereafter we may study the history of other States and of the Nation; but before we can successfully do that, we must know the history of our own State. It will be a task of rare interest to all who shall carefully study it and thus learn how the territory within the State has been changed from a howling wilderness inhabited by wild beasts and savage men, to a land of schools, churches and thousands of happy homes, the abode of a brave and intelligent people who dare to maintain the enduring State as a part of the great Nation.

"No tyrant here can wield the accursed rod
Where all breathe the atmosphere of God!
This goodly land by Nature's stern decree
Was preordained a land of liberty."

CHAPTER II.

THE MOUND BUILDERS AND INDIANS OF WEST VIRGINIA.

Prehistoric Time—Continued.

X 1. The First Inhabitants of West Virginia.—
Before entering upon the study of the history of our



MAMMOTH MOUND AT MOUNDSVILLE.*

*This Mound is one of the greatest prehistoric monuments in America. It is 245 feet in diameter at the base; 79 feet in height, with apex flat and 50 feet in diameter. The first white man who saw it, so far as known, was Joseph Tomlinson, who built his cabin near it in 1770. Soon after, while hunting, he came upon a strange looking hill rising abruptly from the level plain. Proceeding to his cabin, he returned with his wife and the two made

State, it is proper that we make inquiry regarding the people who dwelt here before the coming of white men. Who the first inhabitants were we

do not know, for all the ages through which the New World passed, prior to its discovery by Columbus, are destitute of history and chronology.

But that a race, now called Mound Build-



SCULPTURED STONE, FOUND IN
MOUND AT MOUNDVILLE.†

ers, far superior to the Indians, once existed on this continent, there can be not the least doubt. From the Atlantic on the east, to the Pacific on the west, and from the Great Lakes on the north to the Gulf

the ascent where they stood upon the summit—the first English speaking people on the top of this, one of the greatest mounds on the continent; from that day to this it has stood the wonder of all beholders, and such, if not destroyed by the hand of man, it will continue to be through centuries to come. The Mound was opened in 1838, a tunnel ten feet wide and seven feet high being made along the natural surface to the center (a distance of 111 feet) to a vault. Then a shaft was sunk from the apex to connect with the tunnel. Two large vaults were discovered which contained human skeletons, copper rings, bracelets, plates of mica, ivory beads and ornaments. Within two feet of one of the skeletons was found the Inscribed Stone.

†This stone was found in the Mammoth Mound in 1838. The inscription is in unknown characters, resembling those used by the Scandinavian priests before the introduction of the Roman alphabet. It has never been deciphered and nothing like it has ever been found in America. It has attracted more attention

on the south, we trace them by the mounds which are to be found in almost every county of West Virginia, and throughout the Mississippi Valley and by the ruined structures in the southwestern part of our country. But, who were they? What their origin, and what their fate? Alas, we shall never know! Contemporary history furnishes no aid, for they were isolated from all the world beside. They have disappeared from the earth with not a line of recorded history left behind them.

"Antiquity appears to have begun

Long after their primeval race was run."—*Campbell*.

2. The Ancestors of the Indians.—Were the Mound Builders the ancestors of the Indians? It is not probable that they were. At the time of the discovery of America, in 1492, many thousands of individuals, existing in all the various conditions of society, from the lowest stage of barbarism, to that of a half civilized state,

from scientists and antiquarians at home and abroad than any other relic found in the United States. The characters are now conceded to be of European origin, and, if this be true, then there is evidence that Europeans visited this continent before the coming of Columbus. But who were they? No reply can be made beyond the fact that they were of those acquainted with some ancient alphabet known and used along the coast and among the islands of the European continent. Powell, the antiquarian, says: "Four of the characters correspond to the ancient Greek, four to the Etruscan, five to the Norse, six to the Gaelic, seven to the old Erse, and ten to the Phœnician." Certain it is that these characters were those of the ancient rock alphabet consisting of right and acute angled strokes used by the Pelasgi and other early Mediterranean people and which is the parent of the modern Runic as well as of the Bardic. How came this Stone to be in a West Virginia mound is a question which scientists and antiquarians will continue to ask, but one which will never be answered.

were found roaming from place to place in the American wilderness. They were altogether ignorant of the country from which their ancestors had come, and of the period at which they had been transplanted to the New World. And, although there were traditions among them seeming to cast some light upon these subjects, yet, when thoroughly investigated, they tended rather to bewilder than to lead to any satisfactory conclusions. They knew no more of the work of the Mound Builders than we do.

3. The Tribal Organizations of the Indians.—

The Indians, though seeming to know nothing whatever of any form of national government, nevertheless existed in great tribal organizations, each having its distinctive characteristics and name, and each confined, in a way, to certain geographical limits and under the leadership of ruling chiefs. Thus, in New England, were the Pequods and Narragansetts; in New York and Pennsylvania, the Six Nations; in Virginia, the Powhataus; in Tennessee and other southern states, the Cherokees, Creeks, Catawbas, Seminoles and Yamasees, while north and west of the Ohio dwelt the Miamas, Potawatamies and several other tribes.

4. The Indians of West Virginia.—That part of the present State of West Virginia south of the Great Kanawha river was claimed by the Cherokees, while the region drained by that stream and its tributaries, was occupied by the Shawnees, one of the most warlike tribes with which the white people came in contact; they had towns within the present county

of Greenbrier, and a large one at the mouth of Old Town creek, in Mason county; this latter they abandoned about the year 1763. That part of



AN INDIAN WARRIOR.

the State between the Little Kanawha river and the present site of Wheeling, was the hunting ground of the Mingos, who had their towns on the northern bank of the Ohio, near where Steubenville now stands. The valley of the Monongahela river was occupied by the Delawares, while the region now embraced in the counties of Morgan, Berkeley and Jefferson, was the home of the Tus-

caroras, which tribe removed from North Carolina in 1712, and, becoming one of the Confederated Tribes afterward known as the Six Nations, settled here. Tuscarora creek, which flows through the city of Martinsburg, derives its name from this tribe.

5. *The Supremacy of the Six Nations.*—The most powerful Indian Confederacy in America was that of the Six Nations, or the Five Nations, before

It was joined by the Tuscaroras; until then, it was composed of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagos, Cayugas and Senecas. The names of rivers and lakes in western New York indicate the former residence of these tribes. Pierce and warlike, they triumphed over the Eries, Susquehannas and other eastern nations. Then turning southward, they carried their victorious arms to the Tennessee, and westward to the shores of Lake Superior, and in 1675, they compelled allegiance on the part of the Delawares, Shawnees and other tribes. Thus, by conquest, they established their title to all the territory between the Alleghany mountains and the Great Lakes, and thus their rule was supreme in West Virginia. The Indians residing here acknowledged their supremacy.

6. The West Virginia Hunting Grounds.—During the period of Indian occupation, West Virginia was a favorite hunting ground for many tribes. Over these extensive wilds, herds of bison, elk and deer roamed at will, all the way from the Alleghanies to the Ohio, and bear and much other game abounded in all this region. Here the Indian built his wigwam along the courses of the streams, and then chased the game through the dense forests, or wended his way along the war-path against the foe of his own race who had dared to trespass upon his hunting grounds.

7. Indian Battlefields Within the State.—Long before the coming of white men to West Virginia, the Indians quarreled and warred among themselves

and engaged in many bloody battles. Traditions of these struggles were preserved and communicated to the white settlers when they came to occupy the land. A bloody battle occurred about the year 1700, opposite the mouth of Antietam Creek, now in Jefferson county, on the Potomac river, between the



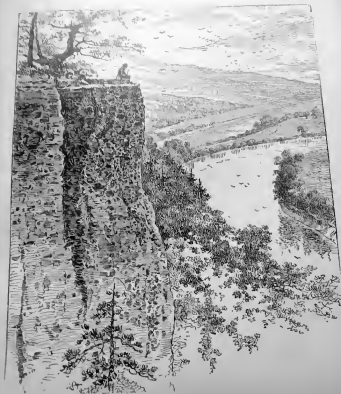
AN INDIAN WIGWAM.

Delaware and Catawba tribes. Every Delaware engaged, except one, was killed and every Catawba carried away a scalp. Other engagements between the savage warriors took place at the mouth of Opecquon, near the mouth of the South Branch of the Potomac,



AN INDIAN WIGWAM.

and at Hanging Rocks, now in the county of Hampshire. This latter was, perhaps, the most fiercely



HANGING ROCKS, HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.

contested battle which the Indians ever fought among themselves in West Virginia.



8. **Indian Geography of West Virginia.**—These Indian inhabitants knew all the country in which they lived and had given names—many of them pretty ones—to all the prominent landmarks and rivers of the State. Far to the northward and southward stretched a vast mountain system, and the Indians called it Ap-pal-ach-ia, meaning “the endless mountains.” They clambered over the mountains so long covered with snow and they called them the “Allegha-ny,” signifying “the place of the foot print,” or “the impression of the feet.”

9. **Indian Names of West Virginia Rivers.**—The Indians warred for the possession of the Ohio Valley and the name “Ohio” was given to the river, meaning the “river of blood.” The Big Sandy river was called the “Chat-ter-a-wha,” the “river of sand-bars”; the Guyandotte river, the “Se-co-nee,” the narrow bottom river”; the Great Kanawha river was the “Ken-in-she-ka,” meaning in the Shawnee language “the river of evil spirits” but the Delawares called it the Kan-a-wha, “the place of the white stone.” O-nim-go-how was the name of the Little Kanawha river; Po-co-tal-i-co meant “plenty of fat doe”; Cole river was the “Wal-hon-de” of the Delawares, signifying the “hill creek”; the Shawnees called Elk river, “Tis-ke-l-wah,” “river of fat elk,” but the Delawares called it “Pe-quo-ni,” “the walnut river”; Paint creek, a tributary of the Great Kanawha river, was known to the Delawares as “Ot-to-we,” or “deer creek”; Gauley river was the “To-ke-bel-lo-ke” of the Delawares, meaning the “falling creek”; the Greenbrier

river was known to the Miamas as the "We-et-owe," while the Delawares called it "O-ne-pa-ke"; Blue Stone river was the "Mo-mon-go-sen-eka," "the big stone creek," of the Delawares who called East river the "Ta-le-mo-te-no." The Shenandoah was "the river of the stars"; the Po-to-mack has been changed to its present form; the South Branch of the Potomac was the "Wap-pa-tom-ica," and the North Branch the "Co-hon-go-ru-ta", meaning the "river of the wild goose;" the Delawares called the river on which they lived the "Mo-non-ga-he-la" signifying the "river of caving banks." "Weeling," "the place of the skull," was the name of Wheeling creek, and from it we have the name of the principal city of the State.

10. The Indian as a Factor in Our History.—

Such was West Virginia, its inhabitants and geography, before the coming of white men, who were destined to build homes in the wilderness, but in doing this, they were to dispute its possession with the Indians, who for more than a hundred years waged a fierce and relentless warfare upon the white settlers. But it was a struggle between civilization and barbarism and the result was the final supremacy of the former. The people who once occupied West Virginia, and made much of its history, have been driven out of the territory now embraced within the State, driven beyond the Mississippi to the western part of the Continent.

"A moment, and the pageant's gone;
The red men are no more.

The pale-faced stranger stands alone
Upon the river shore."

—*Paulding.*

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CHAPTER III.

THE FOUNDING OF EUROPEAN COLONIES ON THE ATLANTIC COAST.

FROM 1607 TO 1669.

1. **The Partition of a Continent.**—No sooner did Columbus make known to Europe the existence of a New World, than many nations hastened to possess portions of it. Spain was the country that aided Columbus in making the discovery and that kingdom proceeded to conquer its newly acquired possessions, and by these triumphs, the civilizations of Mexico and Peru perished from the earth. France was not slow to profit by the discovery of Columbus. Far away, hundreds of miles toward the Arctic Circle, she took possession of the country along the St. Lawrence and around Lake Champlain, and hastened to plant colonies. Between the Spanish possessions on the south and those of France on the north, lay a territory extending from the 34th to the 50th parallel of north latitude, and stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific. England laid claim to all this region, basing her right upon the discoveries of John and Sebastian Cabot, who were the first to explore the eastern coast of North America, they having sailed from Labrador to the Capes of Virginia in the year 1498.

2. How West Virginia was Settled by White Men.

West Virginia being an inland State, was not settled by emigrants from Europe, as were the States along the Atlantic Coast. It was from these that the white settlers of West Virginia chiefly came, and if we would properly understand the history of our own State, we must, before beginning its study, learn something of the colonization of the States from which the people came to settle ours.

3. Colonization of Virginia.—Virginia, of which West Virginia was so long a part, is the oldest American State. One hundred and fifteen years passed away after the discovery by Columbus, and in that time, no white man had found a home in all the country from the Everglades of Florida to the Pine-clad hills of Nova Scotia. But the time was now at hand when civilized men should come to found a great nation in America. In 1606, the English King, James I., granted a patent for territory in America to a corporation composed of men of his kingdom, to be known as the Virginia Company of London, and the object was the founding of a permanent colony in the New World.

4. Collecting the Colonists.—The Company immediately set about the work before it, and colonists to the number of one hundred and five were speedily collected in and about London, and a little fleet, which was to bear them from the shores of the Old World to the wilds of the New, lay at anchor at the docks of Blackwall, and here, on December 19th, 1606, the colonists went on board, and the next day

the ships anchored at London. Three small vessels, that would not now be thought worthy to attempt the passage of the Atlantic, composed the fleet. They were the "Susan Constant" of one hundred and twenty tons burden, commanded by Captain Christopher Newport, and carrying seventy-one persons; the "God-speed" of forty tons, Captain Bartholomew Gosnold, and having on board fifty-two persons, and the "Discovery," a pinnace of twenty tons, Captain John Radcliffe, bearing twenty-one persons. The number of persons on board aggregated one hundred and thirty-four, of whom twenty-nine composed the ships' crews and the remaining one hundred and five were colonists.

5. The Departure from England.—On Saturday, December 20th, 1606, the ships dropped down the Thames river, but they were buffeted by contrary winds and, January 1st, 1606-7, they cast anchor in the Downs. Here, for six weeks, continuous storms detained them in sight of England. But at length the tempest abated. Again the sails were spread and the little fleet stood out to sea. Gentle winds wafted it onward and the shores of England faded from view, and the blue hills of Ireland disappeared in the distance. The ships were steered to the southwest, and, in time, reached the Canary Islands. There they took in a supply of water, and five days later, sailed for San Domingo.

6. The Colonists at Sea.—Winds drove the fleet onward over the billows and on February 24th, 1606-7,* it cast anchor at San Domingo. April the

*This manner of the double dating of events occurring between the 1st day of January and the 24th day of March, in all the years

roth ensuing, the voyage was continued, and the ships were steered northward in hope of finding the long-sought haven. On April 14th they crossed the Tropic



THE FLEET ON THE OCEAN.

of Cancer and on the 21st, at 5 o'clock in the evening, they were overtaken by a terrific storm of wind, rain and thunder, but the ships out-rode it, and on April 26th, the watch descried land to the westward.

between 1582 and 1752, is observed by writers of that period. Until the last named year, the 25th of March was regarded as New Year's day, or the first day of the year, and since that time the 1st day of January has been so regarded. England and her American colonies adopted the latter method in 1752, in compliance with an act of Parliament, which provided that the calendar according to which the year begins on the 25th of March, should not be used after the 31st day of December, 1751, and the 1st day of January ensuing should be called and known as the first day of the year 1752, and each succeeding year, throughout the British Dominions. From this it will be seen that the method of double dating here used, is very necessary, for if we regard March 25th as the beginning of the year, then the ships reached San Domingo February 24th, 1606; but if we consider the year as beginning on the 1st day of January, then the ships anchored at San Domingo February 24th, 1607.

7. The Fleet on the Coas of Virginia.—Because of unfavorable winds, these founders of the oldest American State were tempest-tossed on the restless ocean for long weeks and months, during a portion of which time many were ill, and Robert Hunt, their preacher, was so sick that it was thought that he could not survive. It was the 26th day of April—one hundred and twenty-eight days after the departure from Black-wall—when they entered the mouth of Chesapeake Bay, and upon the capes on either side, they bestowed the names of Charles and Henry, in honor of the sons of King James, the first of whom was afterward the unfortunate Charles I., and the second is known to history as Prince Henry. The ships, after entering the bay, lay at anchor for several days at Old Point Comfort.



RUINS OF JAMESTOWN.

✕ 8. The Founding of Jamestown.—On May 12th the sails were again unfurled and the ships were steered

into the mouth of a magnificent river, which the natives called Powhatan, but to which the Colonists gave the name of James, in honor of their beloved sovereign. The voyage was continued up the river to a point about fifty miles from its mouth, and here on May 13th, 1607, these cavaliers went on shore and laid the foundation of Jamestown, the oldest permanent English settlement in America. This was thirteen years and six months before any other English colony was established in what is now the United States.

9. Settlement of Massachusetts. — From Massachusetts came some of the pioneer settlers of West Virginia. This was the second American State permanently settled by the English. One stormy day in December, 1620, a little ship named the "Mayflower" hove in sight off the bleak shore of Cape Cod, on the coast of Massachusetts. On board the ship was a band of devoted Christian people, who, more than two months before, had left England, and during all that time had been buffeted by wind and wave on the broad Atlantic; but the voyage was now past, and, at last, when all had almost given way to despair, these heart-sick men and women reached the long-looked-for harbor, and upon the 21st of this mid-winter month, after having spent some time in exploring, the weary voyagers landed at Plymouth Harbor, which they named after the place they had left behind them in their native land. Such was the beginning of New England.

10. Colonization of Maryland. — The "Ark" and the "Dove" — names emblematic of safety and peace

— were two historic ships. They bore the first colonists to Lord Baltimore's province of Maryland, a State now so intimately connected with our own. It was October, 1633, when the settlers, two hundred in number, went on board and the ships sailed from Gravesend, near the mouth of the Thames river. They touched at Cowes, on the Isle of Wight, and November 22d, steered for the Azores, and then for the West Indies. Reaching Barbadoes, the vessels were detained for some time and did not reach Chesapeake bay until the 27th day of February, 1633-4. At Point Comfort both vessels received supplies. Thence they proceeded slowly up the bay, and on the 27th of March—thirty days after passing the capes of Virginia—amid the booming of cannon from the ships, the immigrants went on shore and founded St. Marys, the oldest settlement in Maryland. Here had landed the men who were to make this State famous as the home of liberty-loving people. Many early West Virginia settlers came from Maryland.

11.—The First Colonists of South Carolina.—South Carolina soldiers served in West Virginia during the Indian wars, and the history of the people of that State is, therefore, connected with the early annals of our own. The colonists, two hundred in number, destined for South Carolina, left England in 1669. The ships that conveyed them, were the "Carolina," the "Port Royal," and the sloop "Albemarle." Leaving England, the little fleet put in at Kinsale, Ireland, for additional emigrants. Then the sails were spread, and, the "Carolina," with

ninety-three passengers on board, in the lead, the pilots steered for the West Indies. The ocean was crossed, but the "Albemarle" went down before a hurricane at Barbadoes, and the "Port Royal" met a similar fate among the Bahamas. A sloop was purchased at Barbadoes to convey the rescued passengers, but she was parted from the "Carolina" by a storm on the high seas and was driven into a port at the Bermudas. There, too, the "Carolina" cast anchor, but both vessels sailed on the 26th of February, 1669-70, and early in March, reached Seewee, now Charleston, and thence proceeded to Port Royal Harbor. Here they remained until April, when the voyage was continued to Kiawah, now Ashley River, where the emigrants went ashore and laid the foundation of Charleston, the first English settlement in South Carolina.

12. The Land of William Penn.—Many of the people of West Virginia now trace their ancestry back a century or more to Pennsylvania homes. The name of the ship that bore William Penn to Pennsylvania was the "Welcome," and the account of her voyage is a sad recital. When out from port but a few days, the smallpox appeared among the passengers, and before land was sighted, a third of them were dead. The "Welcome" was tempest-tossed, but she outrode the storm, passed the capes at the entrance of Delaware bay, and four days later, October 27th, 1682, cast anchor where New Castle now stands.

13. The Coming of the Founders of Georgia.—Another historic ship left England in 1732. It was

the "Anne," of two hundred tons burden, Captain Thomas, and having on board two hundred colonists, men, women and children, destined as the founders of Oglethorpe's province of Georgia. The "Anne" left the English coast November 17th, 1732, and on January 13th, 1732-3, reached Charleston Harbor on the coast of South Carolina. Thence passing on to the Savannah river, the colonists went ashore on its right bank and began building Savannah, the oldest city in Georgia. These were the founders of the last one of the thirteen original colonies; that is, those existing at the beginning of the Revolution.

14. The Beginning of the States was the Beginning of the Nation.—From these small beginnings great states have developed and with others, they have united and formed the great Nation—the United States of America, of which the State of West Virginia is one. From these States on the Atlantic coast, which we have mentioned, many people came to settle in West Virginia; especially is this true of Pennsylvania and Maryland. But the great mass of those who first found homes in our State came from that part of Virginia east of the Blue Ridge, and that the story of the two Virginias, inseparable as it is, may be studied connectedly, we must return to that little Colony planted on the banks of the James river in 1607; for around it as a central point is grouped the early history of the Virginias, as well as much of our national history.

15. The Character of the Virginia Colonists.—We have seen how the first settlers came to Virginia.

The early annals of the Colony abound with evidence that they were a devoted Christian people, who saw and recognized not only the guiding hand of Providence in all their affairs, but, in the wilderness, were firm believers in the teachings of Christianity. The principal mover of the organization of the Virginia Company of London was Richard Hackluyt, himself a minister and prebendary of Westminster. The Company gave to the colonists, when ready to sail, a series of orders, the last of which was as follows: "Lastly and chiefly, the way to prosper and achieve good success is to make yourselves all of one mind, for the good of your country, and your own, and to serve and fear God, the Giver of all goodness; for every plantation which Our Heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted out." Rev. Robert Hunt was the first minister in Virginia, and before the erection of a church at Jamestown, the people prepared a place of worship by attaching a piece of sail-cloth to three or four trees as a protection from the sun, and for a pulpit a bar of wood was spiked to two trees. There met the first church organization of Virginia, and the first of English speaking people in America.

X 16. **The First Efforts to Establish a School in the United States.**—The first effort to establish a school of any character in the United States, was made at Jamestown in Virginia. The Virginia Company, composed, as it was, of men desiring the intellectual development of the colonists, ever urged the

the £1,500 collected, by a donation of 15,000 acres of land to aid the Indian Mission school at Henrico. But this was not the only effort in this direction. In 1621, the devoted Rev. Patrick Copland, chaplain of an East India ship, collected funds to aid in the establishment of a Free School in Charles City, Virginia, the said institution to be known as the East India School.

X 17. From the Sea to the Mountains.—For a number of years after the founding of Jamestown the settlements were confined to the valley of the James river, but at length the population increased until the homes of civilized men extended far into the interior, and this, too, despite the fierce warfare carried on by the Indians. In 1670, there were 40,000 English speaking people in Virginia, so that by that time thousands of homes dotted all the landscape from the sea to the mountains. These hardy pioneers had extended the domain of civilization even to the base of the Blue Ridge, but no one had dared to found a home beyond that rocky barrier. So with Virginia's sister colonies to the north and south. They had greatly increased in population and had extended settlements, but none of them west of the mountains. But "Westward the Star of Empire takes its way." West Virginia lay in its line of march and it is, in point of settlement, the oldest American State west of the Appalachian mountains, and no other commonwealth has a more interesting or instructive history than it.

CHAPTER IV.

EXPLORATION AND FIRST PERMANENT SETTLEMENT.

From 1669 to 1735.

1. Exploration of John Lederer.—The first white man within the present limits of West Virginia was John Lederer. He was a German by birth and was an authorized explorer in the employment of Sir William Berkeley, a Colonial Governor of Virginia. Lederer made several journeys into the wilderness to the westward. On one of these, he crossed the Blue Ridge, in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, in what is now Jefferson county, West Virginia. From here he appears to have journeyed farther to the west over the mountains into what is now Hampshire county, and, probably, visited the valley of Cheat river. This exploration was made in 1669. A map of the same has been preserved on which is a delineation of the Potomac river, represented as being divided into two branches.

2. The Discovery of the Ohio River.—By a singular coincidence, at the same time that John Lederer was exploring the mountain region of West Virginia, a representative of another nation beyond the sea, saw the western part of the State, when descending the Ohio river. This was Robert Cavelier La Salle, one of the most eminent French explorers of the New

World. It was in the year 1663, that Europeans heard of the Ohio river, and the first intimation of its existence came from the Indians to Dollier, a



STATUE OF LA SALLE,
LINCOLN PARK, CHICAGO

French missionary in Canada. It was reported to be almost as large as the St. Lawrence. This information inspired the adventurous spirit of La Salle with a desire to behold the great river. Accordingly, with Indian guides, he began his journey by way of Ouondago, New York. In October, 1669, he reached the Allegheny river which

he descended to its junction with the Monongahela, and thence continued down the Ohio as far as the falls—now Louisville, Kentucky. There his guides deserted him and he was compelled to make his way back to Canada alone. He was the first European on the Ohio river and the first that saw the western part of West Virginia. Representatives of Germany and France were thus the first white men in West Virginia, and that was more than two hundred and twenty-five years ago.

X 3. **Expedition of Governor Spottswood over the Blue Ridge.**—Alexander Spottswood was one of the most distinguished individuals that controlled the destiny of Colonial Virginia. Hardy pioneers had extended civilization over the eastern part of the

Colony, but of the region to the westward, nothing was known; the time was now come when white men should penetrate the vast wilderness and return to tell the story of its wonderful resources. Governor



ALEX. SPOTTSWOOD.*



LADY SPOTTSWOOD.

Spotswood equipped a party of thirty horsemen, and, heading it in person, left Williamsburg, then the capital of Virginia, on June 20th, 1716.

*Alexander Spotswood, who led the party, was born in 1676, at Tangier, then an English Colony, in Africa, his father being the resident surgeon. He was a thoroughly trained soldier, serving on the Continent under the Duke of Marlborough. He was dangerously wounded at the battle of Blenheim, in 1704, when serving as quartermaster-general, with the rank of Colonel. He arrived in Virginia in 1710, as Lieutenant-Governor under George Hamilton, the Earl of Orkney, and his administration was the most able of all the Colonial rulers. He, in connection with Robert Carry of England, established the first iron furnace in North America. In 1730, he was made Deputy Postmaster-General for the American Colonies, and it was he who promoted Benjamin Franklin to the position of Postmaster for the province of Pennsylvania. He rose to the rank of Major-General and,

4. The Party on the Summit of the Blue Ridge.—Pressing onward through King William and Middlesex counties, they reached the Blue Ridge, which they passed by way of Swift Run Gap. Crossing the Shenandoah river, the intrepid governor and his party pushed onward across the Shenandoah Valley and up the mountains until, on September 5th, 1716, on one of the loftiest peaks of the Appalachian range, probably within the present limits of Rockingham county, Old Virginia, they halted and drank a health to King George. What a spot! never before had the voice of civilized man been heard amid this mountain fastness. Here Robert Brooke, one of the party and the king's surveyor-general, conducted the first scientific observation ever made upon the Appalachian mountains.

5. The Knights of the Golden Horseshoe.—The party returned to Williamsburg and gave the most glowing description of the country which they had visited, and for the purpose of inducing emigration to this far western land, Governor Spottswood established the Trans-Montaine Order, or Knights of the Golden Horseshoe, giving to each of those who had accom-

when on the eve of embarking with troops destined for Carthage, died at Annapolis, Maryland, June 7th, 1740. He owned the house in which Lord Cornwallis afterward signed the articles of capitulation at Yorktown.

Lady Spottswood, who became the wife of Governor Alexander Spottswood, in 1724, was Anne Butler, daughter of Richard Brayne, of Westminster, England. She derived her middle name from James Butler, Duke of Ormond, her god-father. There are many descendants of the issue of this marriage in Virginia and West Virginia.

panied him a miniature horseshoe; some of these were set with valuable stones, and all bore the inscription, *Sic jurat transcendere montes*—Thus he swears to cross the mountains. These were given to all who would accept them with the understanding that they would comply with the terms implied in the inscription.

6. Shenandoah the Home of Savage Men.—The valley region includes all the territory lying between the Blue Ridge on the east and the Alleghany mountains on the west. The first quarter of the eighteenth century passed away and savage men roamed back and forth through all its wide extent, and quarreled and warred among themselves for the possession of the hunting grounds, then a howling wilderness. But, the time was near at hand when those who were to settle the land, were to occupy it. The Shenandoah Valley was to be redeemed from the sway of barbarous men and made the dwelling-place of civilization.

7. No Definite Western Boundaries of Virginia's Border Counties.—Virginia was the first state in the world composed of separate political divisions based upon the principle of representative self-government. In 1634, twenty-seven years after the founding of Jamestown, the colony was divided into eight counties or shires, similar to those of England. Virginia ever tried to keep civil government abreast of her most adventurous pioneers, and to accomplish this, the House of Burgesses—the legislative body of the Colony—continued to make provision for the formation of new counties. These were usually established

with defined boundaries, and into the wilderness, so
comely extended indubitably into the utmost bounds of civiliza-
tion would be included.

X 8. **Exploration of John Van Matre.**—About the
year 1725, John Van Matre, a representative of an
old Dutch family of New York, traversed the valley
of the South Branch of the Potomac. He was an
Indian trader making his headquarters with the
Delawares, a part of which tribe then resided on the
Susquehanna river in Pennsylvania, whence he jour-
neyed far toward the south to trade with the Cherokees
and Catawbas. Returning to New York, he advised
his sons, if they ever removed to Virginia, to secure
lands on the South Branch, these being, as he said,
the best he had seen.

X 9. **Morgan Morgan, the First White Man to Find
a Home in West Virginia.**—John Lederer came as an
explorer; Governor Spotswood and party came as ad-
venturers; John Van Matre came as an Indian trader,
but his sons, whom he advised regarding the fertile lands
of the South Branch, were not to be the first to estab-
lish a home within the State. Morgan Morgan was
the name of him who reared the first cabin home in
West Virginia. The year was 1726-7, and the place
was the vicinity of the present village of Bunker Hill,
on Mill Creek, in Mill Creek magisterial district, in
what is now Berkeley county. Morgan Morgan was a
native of Wales, from whence he emigrated in early life
to Pennsylvania. He was a member of the Church of
England and noted for his exemplary piety. With the

soberness of a sound mind and the earnestness of a pious heart, he went about doing good, but forgot not his own household. Late in life he became a minister of the church, and was a power for good in that wilderness land. Such was the character of the man who established the first Christian home in West Virginia.

X 10. **The Founding of Mecklenberg, now Shepherdstown.**—One mile below the present town of Shepherdstown is what has been known for nearly two hundred years as the "Old Pack-horse Ford," which was the only crossing of the Potomac river east or west of it. By way of this ford came the Germans from Pennsylvania, who found here the gateway to the fertile lands south of the Potomac. Hither came a number of them as early as 1727-8, and once across the river they saw on all sides the grey limestone, reminding them of similar scenes in the Fatherland, and here they halted. They built a little village which they called New Mecklenberg, from the city of that name in Germany. Thus was founded the oldest town in West Virginia. Thirty-four years later the Virginia House of Burgesses legally established the town and afterward changed the name to that of Shepherdstown, in honor of Thomas Shepherd, who laid it out.

X 11. **The Van Matre Patent.**—It has been stated that John Van Matre, the Indian trader, advised his sons to secure lands on the Virginia frontier. One of them, Isaac Van Matre, visited that region about the year 1727, and so pleased was he that, in 1730, he and his

brother John, received from Governor Gooch a patent for 40,000 acres of land which they located and surveyed the same year. Much of it was in what are now Jefferson and Berkeley counties.

12. Joist Hite's Colony.—In 1731, the Van Matres sold a part of these lands to Joist Hite, who, in the year 1732, with his family and three of his sons-in-law, George Bowman, Jacob Chrisman and Paul Froman, and other persons to the number of sixteen families, left York, Pennsylvania, and cutting their way through the wilderness, crossed the Potomac at the "Old Pack-horse Ford," and thence proceeding up the Valley, found homes in the vicinity of Winchester. These settlements were made in what is now Frederick county, Virginia, and, therefore, not within the present borders of this State, but we make mention of them, for they exerted a great influence upon the early settlements within the present boundaries of Berkeley and Jefferson counties.

X 13. Other Early West Virginia Pioneers.—In 1730, and the years immediately following, a number of daring frontiersmen found homes in West Virginia. They settled principally upon the Opequon, Back creek, Tuscarora creek, Little and Great Cacapon, along the Potomac and in the South Branch Valley. Some were Scotch-Irish and Germans, but these were not the only people who found early homes in West Virginia; for in its occupation and settlement, there were blended almost all of the elements of European civilization which were transplanted to our country. For awhile these distinct elements maintained their

individuality, but a long series of Indian wars, together with the Revolution, forced them into a united whole, and so complete was the assimilation that instead of a later divergence they have by common interests become more firmly bound together.

“Our forest life was rough and rude,
And dangers closed us round;
But here amid the green old wood,
Freedom was sought and found.”

—*Gallagher.*

CHAPTER V.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE STATE.

From 1730 to 1754.

X 1. **Establishment of Local Government in West Virginia.**—The Virginians have always been a liberty-loving and a law-abiding people, and as they advanced westward into the wilderness they endeavored to have civil government extended over them. At the time of the settlement of Morgan Morgan, and the coming of the German mechanics to Shepherdstown, the country occupied by them was within the limits of Spottsylvania county the western limit of which was undefined. In 1734, Orange county was formed from Spottsylvania and the inhabited part of West Virginia was included in it until 1738, when the House of Burgesses created Frederick county, the northern half of which was about the same as that of the present counties of Berkeley, Morgan and Jefferson. But five years passed away and it was 1743 before there was sufficient population to justify the organization of Frederick county, and it was not until that year that Governor Gooch named the justices of the Peace for the new county. Morgan Morgan was the first one named and thus the first settler in West Virginia became the first civil officer within the limits of the State.

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2. **Treaty with the Indians at Lancaster.**—The settlements on the borders of Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland, were rapidly extending to the westward and thus encroaching upon the lands of the Indians; lands, which, as we have seen, were claimed by the Six Nations. That matters might be satisfactorily adjusted the Colonies named secured a meeting of the chiefs with the commissioners, those on the part of Virginia being Thomas Lee and William Beverly. The negotiations began June 22d, 1744, and continued until July 4th ensuing, the place of meeting being Lancaster, Pennsylvania. A peace was concluded and the region lying between the Alleghanies and the Ohio was ceded to the English, the consideration being £400. Thus the title to what is now West Virginia passed for the time being from the Six Nations and vested in the English King.

X 3. **The Fairfax Land Grant.**—What is known as the "Fairfax Land Grant" was an important factor in the early settlement of West Virginia. In the twenty-first year of the reign of King Charles II. (1681), a grant was made to Lord Hopton and others, of what was known as the Northern Neck of Virginia. The proprietors sold it to Lord



THOMAS, LORD CULPEPER.*

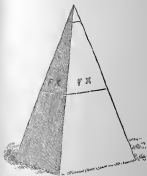
*Thomas, Lord Culpeper, Baron of Thorsway, was appointed Governor of Virginia by King Charles II. July 8, 1677.

Culpeper to whom it was confirmed in the fourth year of King James II. (1688). This immense estate embraced all of the territory lying between the Potomac and Rappahannock rivers in Virginia, and all of the present counties of Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Hampshire, Hardy, Grant, Mineral and a part of Tucker, in West Virginia. The grant descended from Lord Culpeper to his only daughter, Catharine, who married Thomas, fifth Lord Fairfax, from whom the estate descended to their eldest son, Thomas, who became the sixth Lord Fairfax.

4. Efforts to Fix the Boundary of the Fairfax Estate.—In 1733, Lord Fairfax petitioned the King, asking that commissioners be appointed to determine the bounds of his patent. The request was heard with favor and the commissioners, having been appointed, assembled at Fredericksburg, Virginia, in 1734, and the journey to survey the Potomac and find its head spring, or first fountain, began from that place. On November 18th, the party was on the Potomac river, four miles above the mouth of the Shenandoah river, now in Jefferson county, West Virginia. This was the first surveying party ever sent into this State.

arrive in the Colony until 1680, when he brought with him an act for the "free and general pardon, indemnity and oblivion" for all participants in "Bacon's Rebellion." He is described as an able but artful and covetous man. In 1669, he had a half interest with the Earl of Arlington, in the grant for the "Northern Neck," which embraced all of what was afterwards known as the Fairfax Estate. He purchased Arlington's interest and thus became sole proprietor, and his daughter, Catharine, his sole heiress. Culpeper was removed from office, the charges against him being heard by a jury in Middlesex County, England. He died in 1719.

5. The Planting of the Fairfax Stone.—At the mouth of the South Branch a halt was made, but the North Branch was decided to be the true continuation of the Potomac and onward along its winding course proceeded the surveyors, chainmen, axemen and attendants, until the first fountain of the North Branch was reached. Then the party returned and the surveyors made a map and sent it with their report to England. This the king did not approve until April 1745, in which year Lord Fairfax came to Virginia never more to return to England. Other commissioners were appointed to mark



THE FAIRFAX STONE.*

*The Fairfax Stone, which was the first monument erected to mark ownership in land in this State, had a square base, each side of which was two feet and six inches; it was constructed of sand-stone and was built up as shown to a point or apex four feet and six inches from the base. The base was on a level with the surface, and the stones forming the pyramid were three in number, two of which were each two feet high, and the cap-piece or apex, six inches high, all joined. There was no date, but on the middle stone, on each of the four sides were the letters "F X" The joints were cemented and the cutting perfectly true. This stone, one of the most interesting historical monuments in the United States, was destroyed, in December, 1884, by some unknown person, but it is believed to have been the work of some thoughtless boys. The Davis Coal and Coke Company had another stone cut and put in its place, as nearly similar to the original as possible.

the line between the first fountains of the two rivers—the Potomac and the Rappahannock. The journey to the source of the Potomac as determined by the previous surveyors, began on September 18th, and twenty-nine days later—October 17th, 1746, they placed the Fairfax Stone at the head fountain of the North Branch of the Potomac river.

6. George Washington a Surveyor in West Virginia.—In March, 1747-8, Lord Fairfax employed George Washington, then in his seventeenth year, to survey and lay off into lots much of that part of his estate in West Virginia. The boy surveyor crossed the mountains and surveyed more than a hundred tracts of land, laying off the same in quantities to suit the purchasers. He kept a journal in which he made a record of daily transactions, and from it we learn that on Friday, March 25th, 1748, he swam his horse across the Potomac at the mouth of Patterson's creek, now in Mineral county, up which he proceeded to the house of Abram Johnston, where he spent the night, and the next day, visited the home of Samuel Hedges, who was one of the king's Justices of the Peace for Frederick county. Thus the leader of the armies of the Revolution and the first President of the United States surveyed the first farms in West Virginia.

7. The "Ohio Company."—Many cabin homes dotted the country along the upper waters of the Potomac, but no one had yet found a habitation west of the mountains. But now an effort was to be made to settle the region toward the Ohio river. In 1748, a corporation known as the "Ohio Company," was

formed. It was composed of John Hanbury, a merchant of London, Thomas Lee, Thomas Nelson, William Thornton, William Nimms, Daniel Cresap, Michael Cresap, Lawrence Washington, Augustus Washington, George Fairfax, Jacob Giles, Nathaniel Chapman and James Woodrop. The company in 1749, was granted 500,000 acres of land on the Ohio situated on both sides of the river, principally within the present counties of Jefferson and Columbiana, Ohio, and Brooke county, West Virginia.

8. The Ohio Valley ; Claims of England and France to the Same.—By the Ohio Valley is meant all that vast region drained by the Ohio river and its tributaries, and within it lay all of West Virginia except that part drained by the Potomac. England claimed all of the great Valley, and based her claim upon the discoveries of the Cabots on the Atlantic coast, which, she asserted, extended her possessions from sea to sea. Then, too, had not the English purchased a large part of the territory from the Indians at the treaty of Lancaster? France occupied all Canada, and rested her claim to the Ohio Valley upon the discoveries of La Salle, who, as we have seen, descended the Ohio river in 1669-70, and also upon that of Marquette, who was at the mouth of the Ohio in 1680. A common law of nations gave to the country discovering the mouth of a river all the country drained by it. Hence, France could not understand by what authority England granted lands on the Ohio river, or why that kingdom undertook to purchase the same from the Indians.

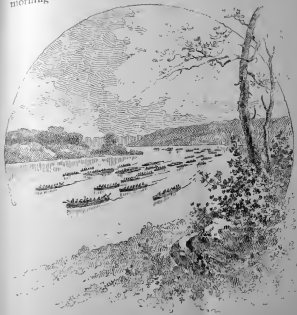
9. French Expedition to the Ohio Valley.—

France resolved to perfect her title to the Ohio Valley by formal possession, and determined to place along that river, a number of leaden plates bearing inscriptions asserting her claims to the lands on both sides of that stream, even to the source of its tributaries. The command of the expedition sent out to deposit these plates was given to Captain Bienville de Celoron. It consisted of eight subaltern officers, six cadets, an armorer, twenty soldiers, one hundred and eighty Canadians, fifty-five Indians, and Father Bonnecamps, who styled himself the "Jesuite Mathematicien."

10. The Journey.—The expedition left La Chine, near Montreal, Canada, on June 15th, 1749, and on July 29th reached the Allegheny river at the mouth of Conewango creek. Celoron was provided with at least six leaden plates, each of which was about eleven inches long, seven and a half inches wide, and a quarter of an inch in thickness. The first plate was buried on the south bank of the Allegheny river, opposite the mouth of the Conewango. Then the journey was continued, and on August 3d the second plate was buried near the mouth of French creek.

11. The Voyage Down the Ohio.—The voyage down the Ohio brought the little fleet to the mouth of Wheeling creek, now almost the center of the city of that name, and here, August 13th, the third plate was buried. Two days and nights passed, and the voyagers went on shore at the mouth of the Muskingum, the site of the present city of Marietta,

Ohio. Here the fourth plate was deposited. On the morning of August 18, a rain-storm drove the canoes



THE FRENCH EXPEDITION DESCENDING THE OHIO.

ashore at the mouth of the Great Kanawha, and here on that day the fifth plate was buried.* The entry

*This plate was found in 1846, and removed from the spot in which it had lain for ninety-seven years. The following is the inscription which it bears:

"In the year 1749, reign of Louis XV., King of France, we, Celoron, commandant of a detachment sent by Monsieur the Mar-

made in Celoron's journal here, translated, reads as follows: "Buried at the foot of an elm, on the south bank of the Ohio and on the east bank of the Chinodashichetha, the 18th day of August, 1749."

12. The Expedition Homeward Bound.—Heavy rains detained the detachment at the mouth of the Great Kanawha for two days. Leaving there on August 20th, the voyage down the Ohio was continued. For several days their canoes floated on beneath the dark shades of the forest on the river's brink. On the 30th, the Great North Bend of the Ohio was passed, and they reached the mouth of the Great Miami, where, on the 31st, the sixth and last plate was buried. From here the homeward march was begun, and on November 10th they reached Montreal, having accomplished a journey of more than six hundred leagues.

+ **13. The Loyal and the Greenbrier Companies.**—The English disregarded the claims of the French, and the Virginia authorities continued to issue land grants to be located in the Ohio Valley. July 12th, 1749, the Governor and Council issued a grant to

quis de la Galisoniere, Commandant General of New France, to re-establish tranquillity in some Indian villages in these cantons, have buried this plate at the mouth of the Chinodashichetha the 18th August, near the river Ohio, otherwise "Beautiful River," as a monument of renewal of possession which we have taken of the said river Ohio, and of all those which fall into it, and of all the lands on both sides as far as the sources of said rivers; the same as were enjoyed, or ought to have been enjoyed, by the preceding Kings of France, and that they have maintained it by their arms, and by treaties, especially by those of Ryswick, Utrecht, and Aix-la-chapelle."

John Lewis, Thomas Walker and others, under the corporate name of the "Loyal Company," for 800,000 acres of land, the boundary of which was to begin on the line between Virginia and North Carolina. October 29th, 1751, the "Greenbrier Company" was authorized to locate 100,000 acres on the waters of Greenbrier river.

X14. **First Settlers on Greenbrier River.**—The first white men who reached the upper course of the Greenbrier river, were Jacob Marlin and Stephen Sewell, who, in the year 1749, came to the mouth of Knap's creek, now in Pocahontas county, and erected a cabin on the bank of Greenbrier river, on what has ever since been known as Marlin's Bottom. Here they were living in 1751, when John Lewis and his son Andrew came west as the surveyors of the Greenbrier Land Company. Sewell afterward moved fifty miles farther west, and fell a victim to savage barbarity. Both of these men have their names preserved in those of two lofty mountains of the State.

X15. **First Explorers South of the New River.**—In the year 1750, Doctor Thomas Walker, of Virginia, with five companions, set out on a journey of exploration in the western wilderness, and, pressing onward, reached the Cumberland mountains, which they so named in honor of the Duke of Cumberland. Then they explored the region about the sources of the Green, Salt, and Kentucky rivers. Then, journeying northward, the explorers crossed the Big Sandy river and traversed the mountains in what is now the southern part of West Virginia, crossing the

upper courses of the Guyandotte and Twelve Pole rivers; and June 28th, 1750, the party reached New river, opposite the mouth of the Greenbrier. They



JUNCTION OF THE GREENBRIER AND NEW RIVERS.

crossed the former and continued up the latter on their return home. Thus, Dr. Thomas Walker, with five companions, two of whom were Ambrose Powell and Colby Chew, were the first white men in that part of

West Virginia south of the Great Kanawha, and the first who saw the mouth of Greenbrier river.

16. **Christopher Gist Explores the Hills and Valleys of West Virginia.**—Christopher Gist was a distinguished surveyor of North Carolina. In September, 1750, the Ohio Company, for £150 and other considerations, employed him to make explorations in the Ohio Valley. Gist began his journey in October, 1750, and returned in May, 1751, having descended the Ohio river to the falls, now Louisville, Kentucky, but he had only observed the lands north of the Ohio. November 4th, 1751, the Company sent him out again, this time to explore the lands between the Monongahela and Great Kanawha rivers. He traversed this entire region, being the first white man to explore that part of West Virginia between these rivers.

17. **The Ohio Company Petitions for a Second Grant.**—Gist made his report to the Company in October, 1752, and it hastened to petition the king to grant to it all the territory south of the Ohio river bounded as follows: "beginning at the mouth of the Kiskiminetas Creek—a tributary of the Allegheny in Pennsylvania—thence down the Ohio to the mouth of the Great Kanawha River; thence with that stream and New River to the mouth of Greenbrier River; thence a straight line along the mountains to the southeast spring on the Monongahela, and thence northward, until a line from the mountains reaches the place of beginning." In consideration of this grant the Company was to speedily erect two forts, one

at the mouth of Chartier's Creek on the Allegheny, and the other at the mouth of the Great Kanawha, and to settle three hundred families within the limits of its grant. War put an end to all this.

18. George Washington's First Public Service.—

Meanwhile the French were putting forth every effort to strengthen themselves in the valley of the Ohio,



GEORGE WASHINGTON

and in 1753 advanced southward, building a cordon of forts extending from Lake Erie to the Ohio. To stay these movements, Governor Robert Dinwiddie, of Virginia, determined first to resort to diplomacy. Major George Washington, then but twenty-one years of age, was summoned to Williamsburg, at that time the capital of Virginia, and entrusted with the hazardous

mission of carrying messages to the French authorities on the Upper Ohio. With several companions he began the journey over the mountains passing through what is now the eastern part of West Virginia. December 4th, 1753, he reached Venango, on the Allegheny River, and passed on to Fort Le Boeuf, where he delivered Dinwiddie's message to the French commander. That official stated that his orders were to hold possession of the Ohio Valley, and he would do so to the best of his ability. Washington's first

public service was ended and after a
freedom from drowning when crossing the Alle-



WASHINGTON AMID THE ICE OF THE
ALLEGHENY.

gheny river he re-
traced his steps over
the mountains to the
English border.

19. First Attempt
at a Settlement on
the Upper Waters
of the Monongahela.—The first effort
to settle on the
waters of the Mon-
ongahela was made
by David Tygart
and a man named

Files in the year 1754. Files settled on the creek
still bearing his name, which empties into the Ty-
gart's Valley river near Beverly, the present seat of
justice of Randolph county. Tygart settled a few
miles above Files, on the river, in the name of which
his own is preserved. They found it difficult to pro-
cure provisions for their families and they determined
to remove eastward, but before this could be done,
the Indians attacked the family of Files and killed
all except one boy who was some distance from
home at the time of the attack. He fled and
warned the Tygart family, all of whom were saved
by flight. Thus ended in disaster the first effort
to establish civilized homes on the waters of the Mon-
ongahela.

X20. The Oldest County in West Virginia.—Hampshire is by twenty-five years the oldest county in West Virginia. It was formed by an act of the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1754, from Augusta and Frederick counties, but owing to continuous war, it was not organized until 1757. It was within the Fairfax Patent and derived its name from the following incident. Lord Fairfax happening to be at Winchester, one day observed a drove of fat hogs, and inquiring whence they came, he was told that they were from the South Branch of the Potomac. He then remarked that when a new country should be formed to the west of Frederick, it should be called for Hampshire county, England, so celebrated for its fine hogs.

From 1754 to 1763.

1. The Conflicting Claims to the Ohio Valley.—

Both France and England continued to assert their claims to the Ohio Valley, in which was included nearly all of West Virginia. Neither occupied the land, yet both were determined to possess it. The courts of London and Versailles watched with jealous eyes the actions of each other, and it became evident that the final struggle for territorial supremacy in America was near at hand. "The country west of the Great Mountains is the center of the British dominions," wrote Lord Halifax, who with other courtiers was determined to possess it.

2. The Beginning of the Struggle.—Great Britain was ably seconded by the Virginia Colony, and a company of West Virginia pioneers was speedily collected in the Hampshire hills, who, under the command of Captain William Trent, crossed the mountains, and in January, 1754, began the erection of a fort at the forks of the Ohio—now Pittsburg. This work was prosecuted until April 16th, when a large force of French and Indians from Canada, having descended the Allegheny river, appeared on the

scene. Contrecoeur, the French commander, sent a summons to surrender. Resistance was vain. Captain Trent had returned to the East, leaving Ensign Ward in command; he surrendered the unfinished structure and marched up the Monongahela. The French completed the work and bestowed upon it the name of Fort Duquesne, in honor of Marquis de Duquesne, who had become Governor-General of Canada in 1752.

3. Erection and Surrender of Fort Necessity.—Meantime, Virginia was mustering a force for service on the Ohio. Lieutenant-Colonel Washington with two companies reached Will's Creek—now Cumberland City, Maryland—where he learned of the surrender of Ensign Ward at the forks of the Ohio. Without awaiting the arrival of an additional force, Washington pushed into the wilderness, and on May 9th was at a crossing of the Youghiogheny river. From here he proceeded to the Great Meadows where, hearing that the French and Indians were advancing against him, he halted and built Fort Necessity. May 28th, the Virginians by a forced march, surprised and captured the French advance, but the main body came on and attacked the fort which Washington surrendered July 4th, 1754, and in great discomfiture began the march back to Will's Creek.

4. England's Preparation for War.—The year, 1754, closed with the French in complete possession of the Ohio Valley; but a war had begun which was to change the geography of a continent. Both



GENERAL EDWARD BRADDOCK.*

nations speedily mustered veteran regiments fresh from the battle-fields of the Old World, to do service in the New. The Duke of Cumberland selected General Edward Braddock to command the British troops destined for American service, and from London, Braddock went to Cork to hasten preparation for the embarkation of the army. The delay was irksome and the commander sailed in the

ship "Norwich," accompanied by the "Centurion" and "Syren," on December 14th, 1754.

5. **The Army on the Ocean.**—At length, all things were in readiness, and January 14th, 1755, the fleet, with the 44th and 48th Royal Infantry Regiments on

*General Edward Braddock was a son of Edward Braddock, a Major-General in the English army, and was born about the year 1695. He entered the army as an Ensign in the Cold Stream Guards, on the 11th day of October, 1710, and rose rapidly in the scale of promotion because of bravery and gallantry displayed on bloody fields, his superior officer being the Duke of Cumberland. That officer chose Braddock to command all the British troops to be sent to Virginia because his "courage and military discipline had recommended him as of ability for so great a trust." For nearly fifty years he had been connected with the Cold Stream Guards, and was a true soldier, but he knew nothing of the arts of war as practiced by the Indians of North America. The world knows the story of his march and of the fatal field of Monongahela.



board, left the harbor of Cork. It consisted of the following named vessels, the "Anna," "Halifax," "Osgood," "London," "Industry," "Isabel and Mary," "Terribel," "Fame," "Concord," "Prince Frederick," "Fishburn," "Molly," and the "Severn." This fleet was under convoy of the "Seahorse" and "Nightingale," two of the most powerful ships of the British navy. On February 20th, the "Norwich" with General Braddock on board, reached the coast of Virginia. The "Osgood" and "Fishburn" arrived on March 2d, and within the two succeeding weeks the entire fleet lay at Alexandria on the Potomac, nine miles below the present site of Washington City. Thus was a British army first landed in the New World.

6. The Army in America.—On April 14th, General Braddock met a number of the Colonial governors in a council of war at Annapolis, Maryland, and a general plan for the prosecution of the war was adopted. A part of this plan was the movement of General Braddock against Fort Duquesne. In compliance with this decision, the army left Alexandria, April 20th, and six days later it arrived at Fredericktown, Maryland, where it was joined by George Washington, who was made an aid-de-camp to the general.

X **7. The King's Army on the Soil of West Virginia.**—On April 30th, the army left Fredericktown, and crossing the Potomac below Shepherdstown, began the march over the soil of West Virginia. Cabin homes dotted the landscape of what is now Jefferson County, and to the inhabitants the army was an

subject of the greatest interest. Slowly the splendid pageant moved on; long lines of soldiers in scarlet uniform contrasting strangely with the verdure of the forest, filed along the narrow paths, while strains of



THE KING'S ARMY IN WEST VIRGINIA.

martial music filled the air. The route by Winchester was taken for the reason that at that time no road had been constructed up the Potomac river. After a brief rest at that place, the army moved in a north-



west direction through the present counties of Berkeley and Morgan, and reached Little Cacapon Creek about six miles above its mouth, in what is now Hampshire County. Descending this stream to its junction with the Potomac, the army encamped for the night, and the next day, it crossed the latter river into Maryland, having spent five days in marching through the eastern part of West Virginia.

8. Arrival of the Army at Fort Cumberland.—Leaving the "Ferry Fields" where the army crossed the Potomac, the march continued along the north side of the North Branch of that river, General Braddock proceeding in a chariot which he had purchased of Governor Sharpe, of Maryland. The army arrived at Fort Cumberland on the 10th day of May. This structure, named in honor of the Duke of Cumberland, was erected in 1754-55, by Colonel Innes of South Carolina, commanding an independent company from his own Colony, and two similar organizations from the Colony of New York. Here, on the present site of Cumberland City, Maryland, Braddock's army went into camp.

He **9. The March into the Wilderness.**—By May 19th, the entire force destined for the expedition, was collected at Fort Cumberland, and consisted of the 44th and 48th regiments, each numbering 700 men; 30 sailors; 1,209 Colonial troops; 150 Indians and a train of artillery. There were 150 wagons and 2,000 horses. The 44th regiment was commanded by Sir Peter Halkett, and the 48th by Colonel Thomas Dunbar. Patrick McKellar was the chief military engineer of the

expedition, and Sir John St. Clair quartermaster-general. On June 7th, the first division, under Sir Peter Halkett, left Fort Cumberland and on the 8th, the entire force took up the line of march, the objective point being Fort Duquesne.

10. The Army in the Monongahela Valley.—Lofty mountains towered on every hand and so great were the difficulties of the march, that after ten days the army was only thirty miles west of Fort Cumberland. Braddock seemed to think that his engineers should bridge every little stream and cut away every bluff that obstructed the way. Washington, greatly discouraged, succeeded in securing a change. The army was divided. The general advanced with 1,200 chosen men, and Sir Peter Halkett as brigadier, Lieutenant-Colonel Gage—afterward General Gage of the Revolution—Lieutenant-Colonel Burton and Major Sparks, leaving Colonel Dunbar with the remainder of the troops and the artillery and baggage, to follow on as rapidly as possible. It was the evening of July 8th when the English columns, for the second time, reached the Monongahela river at a point ten miles distant from Fort Duquesne.

11. The News at Fort Duquesne.—From the time the army left Fort Cumberland, scouts hung upon its front and rear and carried news of its advance to Fort Duquesne, where all was alarm and excitement. Contrecoeur, the French commander, prepared to evacuate the fort; but Beaujeau, the second in command, proposed to go out and fight the English in the woods. A thousand savage warriors lounged around the walls

of Fort Duquesne. To these Beaujeau appealed. Chiefs gathered their warriors, who, to the number of 600, accompanied by 250 French and Canadians fully armed, left the fort and marched away beneath the midsummer shades of the Monongahela Valley.

X 12. **The Slaughter of Braddock's Army.**—It was July 9th, 1755, and at the same time that the French and Indians left the fort, Braddock's army was crossing the river. Once across, the order to march was given, but scarcely were the columns in motion when Gordon, one of the engineers, saw the French and Indians bounding through the forests, and at once, a deadly fire was poured in upon the English columns. The Grenadiers returned it and Beaujeau fell dead, but Dumas, the second in command, rallied his forest warriors and for three dreadful hours, a storm of leaden hail was poured upon the beleaguered army. At the end of this time, of the 1,200 men who crossed the Monongahela, 67 officers and 714 privates were killed or wounded.

X 13. **The Retreat of the Shattered Army.**—General Braddock was mortally wounded, and Washington, collecting the remnant of the Virginians, covered the retreat of the shattered army. On the fourth day General Braddock died and was buried in the road near Fort Necessity. When Colonel Dunbar received the news, his troops were seized with a panic. Disorder and confusion reigned, and the retreat degenerated into a rout, which continued until the straggling companies reached Fort Cumberland. From there Colonel Dunbar marched the regulars by way of

Winchester, to Philadelphia, and Washington with the surviving Virginians, marched across what is now the eastern part of West Virginia, to Winchester. Thus ended in failure the campaign of 1755.

14. West Virginia Settlements After Braddock's Defeat.—The Indians, instigated by the French, now waged a relentless warfare against the Virginia frontier, and many West Virginia pioneers fell victims to savage butchery, whilst almost the entire population was forced to remain closely confined in places of safety. Of these, Fort Pleasant stood on the bank of the South Branch of the Potomac, one and a half miles above what is known as 'The Trough, now in Hardy county; Edwards' Fort was located on the west side of Cacapon river, in Hampshire county, within a mile of where the road leading from Winchester to Romney, crosses that stream; Furman's Fort was in Hampshire county, on the South Branch, between the present site of Romney and Hanging Rocks, while Williams' Fort was situated about four miles farther down the river; Fort Eyans stood a short distance south of the present site of Martinsburg; Ashby's Fort was on Patterson's Creek, in what is now Mineral county, as was also Cox's Fort, the latter being distant twenty-five miles from Fort Cumberland.

15. French and Indians Attack Edwards' Fort.—On April 18th, 1756, a large body of French and Indians, having traversed the entire extent of West Virginia, appeared before Edwards' Fort in Hampshire county. Captain John Mercer with forty men marched out to attack them, and when a short

distance from the fort, came upon the enemy in ambush. A destructive fusillade was poured in upon the Virginians, sixteen of whom fell at the first fire. The slaughter continued until but six of the forty who left the fort, returned to it. Colouel George Washington, with a small force, was at Winchester, twenty miles away. He wrote Lord Fairfax, commandant of the Hampshire county militia, the day of the attack, and urged him to raise a force at once to relieve Edwards' Fort, and gave it as his opinion that unless ammunition was supplied to the beleaguered garrison that night, all would be slaughtered.

16. The Declaration of War.—Notwithstanding the existence of hostilities for more than two years, a formal declaration of war was not made by England



ROBERT DINWIDDIE.*

until 1756. On August 7th of that year, Governor Dinwiddie made formal proclamation thereof and copies of the same were sent to the troops on the frontier, a number of whom were stationed at Edwards' Fort and other points in West Virginia. The Governor's order required the commander to

have his troops drawn up in line when the Declara-

*Robert Dinwiddie, a prominent character in American history, because he was the chief executive officer of Virginia during the French and Indian war, was a Scotsman, and was born in 1693. He was appointed a collector of customs in the Island of Bermuda in 1727, and eleven years later, received the appointment of Sur-

of War should be read at the head of the column. Voices of small arms were then fired for the health of his majesty and a successful war. Thus was proclaimed among the West Virginia hills a declaration of war by the English Parliament against a sister kingdom in Europe.

17. **The Big Sandy Expedition.**—Late in the autumn of the year 1756, another army marched over the soil of West Virginia. The troops composing it were collected on the Roanoke river, near the present town of Salem, now in Roanoke county, Virginia. This force consisted of a company of Regulars from Fort Dinwiddie on Jackson's river; a company of Minute Men from Botetourt county; two companies from Augusta county, and a party of friendly Cherokee Indians, the whole commanded by Colonel Andrew Lewis. The object of the expedition was the destruction of the Indian towns in the Sciota Valley.

18. **Westward March of the Expedition.**—The line of march began. Crossing New River below the Horseshoe Bend, and proceeding up East River, through what is now Mercer county, West Virginia, the army passed over to the source of Blue Stone river,

Major-General of Customs, of the Southern Ports of the Continent of America. He was commissioned a Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia, July 20th, 1751, and with his wife and two daughters, Elizabeth and Rebecca, he arrived in the Colony November 20th following. The period of his accession as executive of the Colony was one of momentous presage in its history, for events speedily took place which changed the history and geography of a Continent. After more than seven years of faithful service, he was succeeded by Francis Fauquier, and returned to England, where he died July 20th, 1770.

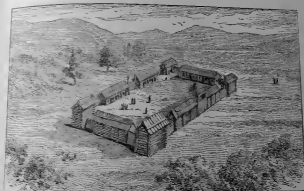
and thence to the north fork of Big Sandy river, within the present limits of McDowell county, West Virginia. The march continued down this stream and the Big Sandy to the mouth of Grayson's creek, now in Wayne county, whence the distance to the Ohio river was but ten miles. Here a messenger from Governor Dinwiddie came up with the army. He brought orders to the commander to return and disband the troops.

19. The Army on the Ohio: Its Return.—The order created great dissatisfaction. The men had borne great hardships and suffering in anticipation of punishing the allies of France, and now they saw the result of their toils about to end in failure. A council of war was held and it was determined to continue the march to the Ohio. This was done and the army encamped two nights and a day at the mouth of Big Sandy river now in Wayne county. This was the first English military expedition that reached the Ohio river, south of Pittsburg.

20. The Army Homeward Bound.—From the Ohio the homeward march began, and on the second night, a detachment fell in with a body of Indians; in the engagement which followed, two Virginians were killed and a Shawnee warrior wounded and taken prisoner. The march was continued, the men suffering intensely from cold and hunger. The pack-horses no longer serviceable were killed and eaten. Then the men subsisted on beech-nuts, but a deep snow fell and these could no longer be obtained. Then the army separated into detachments, and most

the men, after untold suffering, returned to civilization. But many perished and their bones bleached amid the snows on the mountains of West Virginia.

21. **Massacre at Fort Seybert.**—Fort Seybert was a frontier post which stood twelve miles northeast of Franklin, the present seat of justice of Pendleton county. Like other structures of its kind, it was a place of refuge for the settlers when threatened by a



FORT SEYBERT.

savage foe. In May, 1758, when between thirty and forty persons were within the enclosure, it was attacked by a body of Shawnees. Finding neither threats nor bullets of any avail, the cunning savages resorted to strategy, and that, too, with most fatal success. They declared to the inmates that if they surrendered the fort their lives should be spared; but if not

the siege would be continued until every one within should perish. This promise of safety lured the unfortunate victims and they yielded quiet possession of the fort. Perfidious wretches! What cared they for promises? Of the number who surrendered, all except eleven, were at once put to death.

22. The French Driven from the Ohio.—Virginia was actively engaged in defending her frontier, and the war was vigorously prosecuted to the northward. In 1758, another expedition against Fort Duquesne was planned. General John Forbes was in command and his force was collected at Raystown, now Bedford, Pennsylvania. Washington joined him with 1,600 Virginians, a large number of whom were West Virginia pioneers. In the march Washington asked that the advance be given to the Virginians and it was done. The French abandoned the fort and when the English army arrived, it was a mass of smouldering ruins, but it was speedily rebuilt and named Fort Pitt.

23. The French Power Broken.—French Supremacy ceased in the Valley of the Ohio. The following year, Niagara, Crown Point and Quebec surrendered to the English. The treaty of Fontainebleau, in November 1762, put an end to the war. The dominion and power of France ceased on this continent, and no traces of her lost sovereignty exist, save in a few names she has left on the prominent rivers and land-marks, and in the leaden plates, which inscribed in her language and asserting her claims, still lie buried on the banks of the Ohio.

24. **Pontiac's Conspiracy.**—The French army was gone, but the Indians continued the war on the border for more than a year. Pontiac, chief of the Ottawas, formed a conspiracy, which, if it had been carried out in detail, would have driven the English from every frontier post. The first settlement was made in the Greenbrier Valley in 1761, when Archibald Clendenin, Frederick See, Petty Yolcom and others, established themselves in what is now Greenbrier county. Here they were attacked by the Indians in 1763 and the settlement entirely destroyed. The wife of Archibald Clendenin was taken prisoner but afterward escaped and returned to civilization.

25. **Romney and Shepherdstown: The Oldest Towns in the State.**—Romney, the seat of justice of Hampshire county was laid out by Lord Fairfax, in November, 1762, on his lands, where 100 lots of half an acre each had been surveyed previously. It was so called from Romney, one of the Cinque Ports on the English Channel. Shepherdstown, then called Mecklenburg, was laid out a town in the same month and year, on forty acres of land, the property of Thomas Shepherd, in honor of whom the name of the town was afterward changed to Shepherdstown. In 1762, an Agricultural and Mechanical Fair—the first on the soil of West Virginia—was authorized by the General Assembly to be held annually, twice a year—in June and October—at Mecklenburg, “for the sale and vending of cattle, victuals, provisions, goods, wares and merchandise.”

CHAPTER VII.

AN ERA OF PEACE; PIONEER SETTLEMENTS.

From 1763 to 1773.

1. **Expedition of General Henry Boquet.**—The war which had raged furiously for years was now drawing to a close. During its continuance more than a thousand families on the Virginia frontier—now mainly West Virginia—and of Pennsylvania, had been murdered and driven from their homes. General Boquet left Philadelphia with a force of 500 men, and after defeating the Indians at Bushy Run, Pennsylvania, reached Fort Pitt in 1764. With his force increased to 1,500 men, among whom were many West Virginia pioneers, he marched into the Ohio wilderness, and, at the forks of the Muskingum, he concluded a treaty with the Indians, who delivered 206 captives, 90 of whom had been carried away from what is now West Virginia.

2. **Peace on the Border.**—Boquet's army returned to Fort Pitt and peace was established. The ten years through which it continued has been called "the halcyon decade of the eighteenth century." By the terms of the treaty at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, which was afterward ratified by the British ministry, it was declared that "the country to the west of the Alleghanies is allowed to the Indians for their hunting

£1000000." In compliance with this, the King of England, on October 7th, 1763, issued a proclamation forbidding all persons to hunt or settle to the westward of the Alleghanies, and Boquet, on his return to Fort Pitt, proclaimed a like order. But the tide of immigration flowed westward, and neither royal proclamation nor military orders could stop it.

3. Settlement and Fate of the Echarly Brothers.

—Even while the war continued, daring men were seeking homes in West Virginia. In 1756, Dr. Thomas Echarly and two brothers, Germans from Pennsylvania, came to the valley of the Monongahela, and after extended exploration, reared their cabins on Dankard bottom on Cheat river, now in Preston county, a few miles south of Kingwood. Here they resided for two or three years, when Dr. Echarly left the brothers in the wilderness home, and journeyed to the East to obtain a supply of ammunition and salt. This was obtained in the lower part of the Shenandoah Valley, and on his return he stopped at Fort Pleasant on the South Branch, where the story of his residence on Cheat river was not believed. He was thought to be a spy in the service of the French, and a guard was sent with him into the wilderness. When the cabin was reached the brothers were found murdered and scalped. The savages had committed the deed. Thus ended in disaster the first attempt to settle the valley of Cheat river.

4. The Dockers Attempt a Settlement on Monongahela River.

—The first attempt at a settlement on the Monongahela was made in 1758. In that year

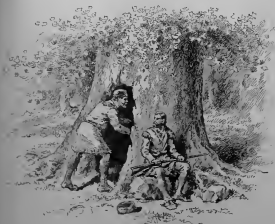
Thomas Decker and others began a settlement at the mouth of Decker's Creek which empties into the Monongahela near the present site of Morgantown. Here the winter was spent, but the next year a band of Delaware and Mingo warriors attacked the settlement and put nearly all the inhabitants to death.

5. Adventurers from Fort Pitt in the West Virginia Wilderness.—In the year 1761, William Childers, John Lindsey, John Pringle and Samuel Pringle left Fort Pitt, and, ascending the Monongahela river, passed over to the Youghiogheny, where they spent the winter. The next spring the Pringle brothers, having separated from the others, journeyed eastward until they reached the Looney Creek settlement, now in Grant county, and then the most western outpost of civilization. Again entering the wilderness, they made their homes in the glades of what is now Preston county until 1764, when they were employed as hunters by John Simpson, a trapper from the South Branch of the Potomac. At the Horseshoe Bend of Cheat river, a dispute arose and a separation took place.

6. The First Cabin Where Clarksburg Now Stands.—Simpson passed over the mountains and crossed Tygart's Valley river at the mouth of Pleasant Creek, now in Taylor county, and then journeyed over to another stream, to which he gave the name of Simpson's creek. Farther on he came upon another stream, a tributary of the West Fork of the Monongahela, on which he bestowed the name of Elk Creek, and at the mouth of which he reared his cabin and here

continued to reside, until permanent settlements began to be made around him. Simpson's cabin was the first home of civilized man on the present site of Clarksburg.

7. The Pringles on Buckhannon River.—The Pringles also reached Tygart's Valley river up which they proceeded to the mouth of the Buckhannon river,



ABODE OF THE PRINGLE BROTHERS.

and thence up that stream until they came to the mouth of Turkey Run, three miles below the present town of Buckhannon, in Upshur county. Here they halted and took up their abode in the cavity of a large sycamore tree. They continued their solitary residence at this place until 1767, when John left his brother and made a journey to the South Branch for ammunition,



and when he returned he brought news of the close of the French and Indian War nearly five years before. Both now went to the South Branch and brought a number of settlers to the valley of Buckhannon river.

8. The First English Expedition Descends the Ohio.—Early in 1765, the first English expedition descended the Ohio river. It was commanded by Colonel George Croghan, of Pennsylvania, and was sent out for the purpose of exploring the country adjacent to the Ohio river, and of conciliating the Indian nations which had hitherto taken part with the French. On the 15th day of May, 1765, the expedition left Fort Pitt with two batteaux. On the 17th they passed the present site of Wheeling, and on the 22d they were at the mouth of the Great Kanawha. The voyage continued to the Falls of the Ohio, and Croghan, having accomplished the object of his mission, returned by way of the Great Lakes to Niagara.

9. A Definite Boundary Line between the Indians and Virginia.—A definite boundary line was now sought by both the Indians and the Virginians. Governor John Blair, in his message to the House of Burgesses of Virginia, May 31st, 1768, said: "A set of men regardless of the laws of natural justice, * * * and in contempt of royal proclamation, have dared to settle themselves upon the lands near Cheat river, which are the property of the Indians." The same year the Six Nations, in an address to Colonel Croghan, said of these lands, "It is time enough to settle them when you have purchased them and the country becomes yours."

Treaty of Fort Stanwix.—A request went overseas, and the British government ordered Sir William Johnson, its Superintendent of Indian Affairs, to at once complete the purchase of the lands from the Alleghenies to the Ohio river. Upon receipt of these instructions, Colonel Johnson gave notice of a Congress to be held at Fort Stanwix, now Rome, New York. The Governments of Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, and also the Six Nations, were requested to send representatives. This was done, and the delegates assembled on October 24th, 1768, Sir William Johnson presiding.

11. All West Virginia Ceded to the King of England.—The right and title of the Indians to the territory in question was maintained with all the eloquence of forest orators. The Colonial Commissioners admitted the same, and tendered a sum of money and goods aggregating in value the sum of ten thousand four hundred and sixty pounds, seven shillings and three pence in payment therefor. The offer was accepted and the deed of cession signed and delivered. The territory thus ceded, of which West Virginia was a part, was bounded on the west by a line beginning at the mouth of the Tennessee river and running thence with the south bank of the Ohio river to Kittanning, above Fort Pitt.

12. The Original Indiana Territory.—A reservation was made by the Indians at the above treaty to satisfy a claim of an association of Philadelphia merchants for goods, which the Indians had destroyed on the Ohio in 1763. At Fort Stanwix, they executed a

deed in settlement of this claim for all the lands bounded by a line beginning at the mouth of the Little Kanawha river and running thence to Laurel Hill, and thence with said Laurel Hill to the Monongahela river, and thence to the southern boundary line of Pennsylvania, thence due north to the Ohio river, and thence with that river to the place of beginning. This land, afterwards known as the Indiana Territory, was the cause of much litigation. A suit was brought against Virginia which finally resulted in the adoption of the Eleventh Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

X 13. **Homes Established in the Wilderness.**—The cession of what is now West Virginia to the English by the treaty of Fort Stanwix, led to a renewed effort to settle the wilderness west of the mountains. In 1768 Zackwell Morgan and others settled on the Monongahela where Morgantown now stands. In 1769 a number of families again settled in Greenbrier, the distinguished Colonel John Stewart, then a youth of but nineteen years, coming with them. The same year James Clark and John Judy found homes on Big Sandy Creek, now in Preston county, and John Wetzel and the Siverts and Calverts reared their cabins on the highlands in what is now Sand Hill District, Marshall county. The Virginia land office records show how rapidly these West Virginia lands were being appropriated at this time. Twelve settlement rights were issued in 1769, and forty-nine, each for 400 acres, in 1770, on the waters of the Monongahela alone.

14. **The Mississippi Company.**—In 1768, a great corporation made an effort to secure a grant of land in which all of West Virginia west of the mountains was included. In December of the above named year, Arthur Lee, late Commissioner to the Court of France from the United Colonies, presented a petition to the King of England on behalf of himself and forty-nine others, asking that a grant be made to them for 2,500,000 acres of land, to be located between the thirty-eighth and forty-seventh degrees of north latitude, the Alleghany mountains on the east and the Ohio river on the west. This petition, which is still preserved in England, was referred to the Board of Trade, which body appears never to have made a report thereon.

15. **George Washington Surveys Lands on the Ohio.**—Under the provisions of Governor Dinwiddie's Proclamation of 1754, Virginians serving in the French and Indian War were entitled to patents for western lands. Colonel Washington and his men were among these, and, in 1770, he made a journey to the Ohio for the purpose of locating some of the lands. He left Mount Vernon on the 5th of October and spent the night of the 9th at Romney, Hampshire county. Reaching Pittsburg on the 17th, he, with several others, began the descent of the Ohio river on the 20th. On the last day of October, the party encamped on the site of the present town of Point Pleasant, now in Mason county, and the next day proceeded up the Great Kanawha, for the purpose of examining the lands along that river. A month

VIRGINIA

was spent in surveying and in that time more than one hundred thousand acres were surveyed in the valley of the Great Kanawha and on the south bank of the Ohio. When the work was completed all returned home, Washington reaching Mount Vernon on the first day of December.

X 16. **Western Settlement Continued.** — In the spring of 1770, Ebenezer Zane and his two brothers, Jonathan and Silas, planted the first corn grown where the city of Wheeling now stands; Joseph Tomlinson reared his cabin on the Grave Creek Flats near the present site of Moundsville, in Marshall county; and a daring frontiersman of the name of Tygart, found a home at the mouth of Middle Island creek now in Pleasants county. In 1772, James Booth and John Thomas became the first settlers within the present limits of Marion county, they having established themselves at Booth's creek in that year. In 1773, James and Thomas Parsons came from the South Branch Valley, near where Moorefield, in Hardy county, now stands, and settled at the Horseshoe Bend, now in Tucker county, and the same year, if not earlier, Leonard Morris became the first permanent settler in the Great Kanawha Valley, rearing his cabin near the present site of Brownstown, in Kanawha county.

X 17. **The Church of England in West Virginia.** — The Church of England was the established Church of Virginia before the Revolutionary War, the Colony being divided into parishes, usually, though not always, identical with the counties in which they

were situated. In 1738, Frederick county was formed from Augusta, and Frederick Parish—like the county of the same name—embraced all of what is now



RUINS OF OLD TRINITY CHURCH, NORBORNE PARISH.
NEAR CHARLESTOWN, JEFFERSON COUNTY.

Jefferson, Berkeley and Hampshire counties in West Virginia. In 1769, Norborne Parish was formed from that of Frederick, within which Morgan Morgan had established the first Church in West Virginia at what is now the little town of Bunker Hill, in Berkeley county. Soon after, other churches were established at Shepherdstown and Charlestown in what is now Jefferson county. Hampshire Parish was formed in 1753, and Hardy Parish taken from it in 1785. Thus it is seen that the established Church of England and Virginia, was organized in West Virginia many years before the war for Independence. But there was toleration, and various denominations had reared churches and gathered congregations in these parishes long before the Revolution.



X 18. **The Proposed Province of Vandalia.** — As early as 1756, Governor Dinwiddie urged upon the English Government the necessity of founding a new province with an independent government in the Ohio Valley. And in the years following, many statesmen, among them Lord Halifax, strongly supported the plan. The efforts of the Mississippi Company as well as those of the Ohio Company had failed, but in 1773, another effort was made. A petition signed by many eminent Virginians, went over-sea praying for the formation of a separate government for a province to be known as "VANDALIA," of which George Mercer was to be Governor and the seat of government was to be located at the mouth of the Great Kanawha river. But the renewal of the Indian wars, together with the Revolution, put an end to all these plans. Had it not been so, it is probable that there would have been an independent government in West Virginia nearly a century before it came.

CHAPTER VIII.

LORD DUNMORE'S WAR—THE BATTLE OF POINT PLEASANT.

From 1773 to 1775.

1. **The Era of Peace Ended.**—The treaty which had remained unbroken since 1764, was now to be violated on the part of the English. In 1774, several Indians were killed on the South Branch of the Potomac, and Bald Eagle, a chieftain known along the whole frontier, was murdered while descending the river in his canoe. A German family by the name of Stroud had settled on Gauley river, and, in the absence of the husband, the wife and children were murdered by the Indians. At this time a chief known as Captain Bull, together with a few other Indians, resided at what is now known as Bulltown in Braxton county. They were believed by many to be friendly to the whites, but the trail of those who wrought ruin at the Stroud home, led toward Bulltown, and suspicion fell on its inhabitants. Five men followed the trail and it afterward appeared that they murdered every inhabitant at Bulltown and threw their bodies into the Little Kanawha river.

X 2. **Murder of Logan's Family.**—On the 16th of April, 1774, a large canoe filled with white men from Pittsburg, was attacked by Indians near Wheel-

ing, and one of the men in it killed. The people living in the vicinity now assembled at Wheeling Creek and issued a declaration of war. Logan was a distinguished chieftain of the Mingo tribe, which had its home on what is now called Mingo Bottom, near the present site of Steubenville, Ohio. On the 30th of April, 1774, a body of twenty or thirty men from Wheeling ascended the Ohio to the mouth of Yellow Creek, where, on the West Virginia side, under circumstances of great perfidy, they murdered ten Indians, among whom was the family of Logan. This exasperated the Indians to such an extent that war was inevitable, and the storm burst with all its fury on the Virginia frontier. Bands of savages scoured the present State of West Virginia, laying waste the settlements. Men, women and children fell victims to savage fury. Infants' brains were dashed out against trees, and bodies were left to decay in the summer sun or to become food for wild beasts and birds of prey. It was a reign of terror along the whole western border.

3. Expedition of Colonel Angus McDonald.— Tidings of war were carried to Williamsburg, then the capital of Virginia, and Governor Dunmore ordered Colonel Angus McDonald to collect the settlers on the Upper Potomac river and in the vicinity of Wheeling and to organize a force sufficient to stay the tide of blood until a larger army could be collected in the Shenandoah Valley and east of the Blue Ridge. Colonel McDonald obeyed the summons and hastened to Wheeling, where he established his headquarters. Captain Michael Cresap, of Maryland,

entered the Virginia service and with a small force joined McDonald, the ranking officer of the expedition. In June, four hundred men began the invasion of the Indian country. The troops descended the Ohio to the mouth of Captina creek, where the march into the wilderness began. Far in the interior of what is now the State of Ohio, the Indian towns were burned and the cornfields laid waste. Then the expedition returned to Wheeling, having three captive chiefs. But the war on the frontier continued.

4. Governor Dunmore Hastens to Collect an

Army.—To meet the general uprising of the united tribes north of the Ohio, Virginia made ready for war and the din of preparation resounded along her borders. Lord Dunmore left Williamsburg, and passing over the Blue Ridge, assisted in mustering an army. A force of two thousand three hundred veteran troops was collected in two divisions called the northern and south-



LORD DUNMORE.*

ern wings, to march by different routes, but to be reunited on the banks of the Ohio.

*John Murray, fourth Earl of Dunmore, and the last royal Governor of Virginia, was born in 1732. He was appointed Governor of New York in January, 1770, and of Virginia in July, 1771, and arrived in the latter Colony in 1772. In the summer of the ensuing year, he visited the frontiers of the Colony and spent some time at Pittsburg. Indian hostilities were renewed in 1774,

\ 5. **The Southern Wing of the Army.**—The southern division numbering eleven hundred men, under the command of General Andrew Lewis, was divided into two regiments, commanded by Colonel William Fleming, of Botetourt county, and Colonel Charles Lewis, of Augusta county. The troops gathered at Camp Union, afterward Fort Savannah, and now Lewisburg, the seat of justice of Greenbrier county. The last to arrive were two companies, one from Bedford and a second from Washington county, the latter under the command of Captain Evan Shelby, afterward a governor of Kentucky.

6. **Westward March of the Southern Division.**—On the 6th of September, 1774, Colonel Charles Lewis left camp at the head of six hundred Augusta county troops, who were to proceed to the mouth of Elk river and on the land on which Charleston, the capital of West Virginia, now stands, construct canoes in which to transport the army supplies to the mouth of the Great Kanawha river. Major Thomas Posey, the Commissary-General, and Jacob Warwick, the butcher, had charge of the supplies and had with them four hundred pack-horses, one hundred and eight head of beef cattle and fifty-four thousand pounds of flour ground on mills in the Shenandoah Valley. On the 12th of September, General Lewis left Captain and that year is famous as that of "Dunmore's War." He was the only royal Governor that ever led a military expedition into the Ohio Valley. Dunmore was loyal to the British cause and was driven from Virginia in 1775 by the Revolutionary patriots. He escaped in a British man-of-war. In 1786 he was appointed Governor of Bermuda, and died at Ramsgate, England, in May, 1809.

Anthony Bledsoe with the sick at Camp Union, and with the remainder of the army numbering five hundred and fifty men, struck the tents and took up the line of march through the wilderness. The advance was overtaken at the mouth of Elk river, now Charleston, and here those who had fallen sick were left in care of Captain Slaughter, and the army thus reunited proceeded down the north side of the Great Kanawha to its junction with the Ohio, where it arrived on the 6th of October.

7. **The Northern Wing of the Army.**—The northern wing, commanded by Governor Dunmore in person, and numbering twelve hundred men, was collected chiefly from the counties of Frederick, Berkeley, Hampshire and in what is now Jefferson. Three of the companies had served with McDonald and on their return enlisted in Dunmore's army. The westward march began by way of Potomac Gap, and on reaching the Monongahela river, the force was divided, Colonel William Crawford with five hundred men, proceeding overland with the cattle, while Governor Dunmore with seven hundred men descended the river by way of Fort Pitt. Both columns reached Wheeling—then Fort Fincastle—on the 30th of September. The combined forces at once descended the Ohio to the mouth of Hockhocking river, where they halted and built Fort Gower, the first structure of its kind reared by Englishmen in Ohio.

8. **General Lewis' Army at the Mouth of the Great Kanawha.**—The spot on which the army encamped at the junction of the Great Kanawha and

Ohio, was the triangular point between the two rivers. The site was one of awe-inspiring grandeur. Here were seen hills, valleys, plains and promontories, all covered with gigantic forests, the growth of centuries, standing in their native majesty, unsubdued by the hand of man. There were no marks of industry nor of the exercise of those arts which minister to the comfort and convenience of man. Here Nature had for ages held undisputed sway in a land inhabited only by the enemies of civilization. To this spot the Virginians gave the name of Camp Point Pleasant, from which that of the town has been derived. Thus the first week in October, the two wings of the army lay upon the Ohio, but separated by a distance of more than sixty miles.

X **9. The Battle of Point Pleasant.**—When General Lewis reached the mouth of the Great Kanawha, he was very much disappointed at not meeting Governor Dunmore. But messengers arrived with dispatches which gave information of the movements of that official and contained an order for the southern wing of the army to meet the northern wing at the Shawnee towns on the Sciota, far out in the Ohio wilderness. But Lewis' men were much fatigued with a march of one hundred and sixty miles; pens had to be built for the cattle and the commander replied to the Governor's message, informing him of these facts, but stated that he would join him as soon as all of the food supply and powder should reach Point Pleasant. This was on the 8th of October and on the 9th—Sunday—the Chaplain preached the first

section ever delivered at the mouth of the Great Kanawha river.

10.—**The Battle Day.**—Early on the morning of the 10th of October, two soldiers, Robertson and Hickman, went up the Ohio in quest of deer, and, when about three miles from camp, near the mouth of Oldtown creek they discovered a large body of Indians just arising from their encampment. The

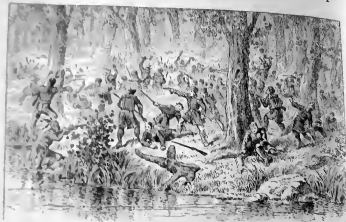


PLAN OF BATTLE OF POINT PLEASANT.*

soldiers were fired upon and Hickman was killed, but Robertson ran into camp and informed General Lewis that he had seen a body of Indians covering four acres of ground. Within an hour after their presence

* In this plan of the Battle of Point Pleasant, *a*, represents the point at which the battle began and where Colonel Charles Lewis was mortally wounded; *b*, the line of battle as it was, at mid-day; *c*, the spot on which Cornstalk was afterwards buried, the same spot was within the court-house enclosure and about fifty feet from the rear entrance of the court-house; *d*, the site on which Fort Randolph was erected immediately after the battle.

11. A Bloody Field. — Colonel Charles Lewis, brother of General Lewis, led the advance and fell mortally wounded at the first volley. His troops



BATTLE OF POINT PLEASANT.

wavered under an incessant fire, but Colonel Fleming advanced along the bank of the Ohio, and, although he was severely wounded, he remained at the head of the column and thus checked the Indian advance. The struggle continued with unabated fury until late in the afternoon, when General Lewis, seeing the impracticability of dislodging the Indians by the most vigorous attack, detached three companies with orders to proceed up the Kanawha river about half a mile



and then under cover of the banks of Crooked creek, attack the Indians in the rear. This movement secured for the Virginians a complete victory. The Indians finding themselves thus attacked, gave way and about sun-down commenced a precipitate retreat across the Ohio river toward their towns on the Sciota. The victory was dearly bought. Of the Virginians, seventy-five were killed and one hundred and forty were wounded.

12. **The Indian Army.**—The loss of the Indians could never be ascertained, nor could the number engaged be known. Their army was composed of warriors from the different nations north of the Ohio and comprised the flower of the Shawnee, Delaware, Mingo, Wyandotte and Cayuga tribes, led on by their respective chiefs at the head of whom was Cornstalk, king of the Northern Confederacy. Never, perhaps, did men exhibit a more conclusive evidence of bravery in making a charge and fortitude in withstanding one, than did these undisciplined soldiers of the forest on the field at Point Pleasant. The voice of Cornstalk could be heard above the din and roar of the battle.

13. **The Virginia Army North of the Ohio.**—Colonel Fleming was left in command at Camp Point Pleasant on the site of which he reared the walls of Fort Randolph, and the place was never afterward deserted. General Lewis, with a force of one thousand men, each with ten days' supply of flour, crossed the Ohio, and on the evening of the 17th of October encamped on the opposite side. On the following

morning, under the guidance of Captain Arbuckle, they began the march toward the Indian towns on the Sciota. Meanwhile Governor Dunmore advanced toward the same point, and when the southern wing had marched eighty miles through an unbroken forest, Governor Dunmore informed the commander that a treaty had been concluded with the Indians. General Lewis marched his army back to Point Pleasant, where it arrived October 28th. Leaving Captain Russell with a garrison of fifty men at this place, it continued its march to Fort Savannah, where it was disbanded in November. The northern division of the army returned by way of Wheeling. Thus ended Dunmore's war.

CHAPTER IX.

WEST VIRGINIA DURING THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

From 1775 to 1783.

1. **West Virginia at the Beginning of the Revolutionary War.**—At the beginning of the Revolution but two of the counties of West Virginia had an existence. These were Hampshire and Berkeley. In the year 1775, the former extended from the Blue Ridge to the Ohio and the latter stretched away from the North Mountain to the same western limit. Augusta county, now in Virginia, embraced all of West Virginia lying south of the Little Kanawha river and extended to the Mississippi. The dwellers here were of that hardy race cradled in the hot-beds of savage warfare, and when the Revolution came, nowhere could there be found more patriotic and determined spirits than the first settlers of West Virginia.

2. **Action of the West Virginia Pioneers.**—The first settlers of West Virginia were ready at the first drum-tap of the struggle, and no sooner did they hear the news from Lexington and Concord, than hundreds of them hastened to Pittsburg—then believed to be within the limits of Virginia—and, after pledging their lives to the cause of American liberty, they elected John Harvie and John Nevill to represent them in the Virginia Convention, in which these gentlemen were admitted to seats as the representatives of "the

people of that part of Virginia which lies westward of the Alleghany Mountains." The other members of this Convention, from what is now West Virginia, were Robert Rutherford and Adam Steven from Berkeley county, and John Mercer from Hampshire.

3. A Second Convention.—On the 16th of May ensuing, these West Virginia frontiersmen a second time assembled at Pittsburg and appointed an Executive Committee composed of twenty-eight of the most eminent men then on the frontier, whose duty it should be to represent the people residing west of the mountains. They at once raised fifteen pounds sterling and transmitted it to Robert Carter Nicholas to be used in defraying the expenses of Virginia representatives while attending the Continental Congress. Before adjournment they selected John Harvie and George Rodes to represent them in that body. These were the first members of an American Congress who sat for the inhabitants west of the Alleghanics.

X **4. First Revolutionary Soldiers from the South Side of the Potomac.**—The first body of troops enlisted south of the Potomac, for service in the Revolutionary War, was a company of West Virginia pioneers which organized at Morgan's Spring in what is now Jefferson County, West Virginia. It was commanded by Captain Hugh Stevenson. Their banner was emblazoned with the device of the "Culpeper Minute Men"—a coiled rattlesnake ready to strike and the significant motto "Don't tread on me." Each man wore a buck-tail in his hat and had a

scalping-knife in his belt. The 17th day of July, 1775, was the date fixed for their departure and not



FLAG OF THE MINUTE MEN.*

a man was missing. Having partaken of a frugal meal, they listened to a sermon and benediction and then took up the line of march for Boston, six hundred miles away. On the 10th of August, twenty-

four days after their departure, they were in sight of the American camp. Washington, when he saw them, galloped away to meet them. Captain Stevenson reported his troops "from the right bank of the Potomac," and the Commander, dismounting, shook hands with every man in the company. The second company of Virginians to go to Boston was that commanded by the famous Daniel Morgan, which in the autumn of 1775 marched from Winchester and, after spending a night at Shepherdstown, crossed the Potomac River at that place.

* The Border Riflemen of Virginia—founders of West Virginia—before the Revolution and at the beginning of that struggle were called MINUTE MEN, who, as John Randolph said in the United States Senate, "were raised in a minute, armed in a minute, fought in a minute, and vanquished the enemy in a minute." From a description of these men written many years ago, the following is taken: "They wore in their hats buck-tails, and in their belts tomahawks and scalping-knives. Their savage, warlike appearance excited the terror of the inhabitants as they marched through the country."

5. Military Establishment of West Virginia.—

The position of Virginia was a perilous one. Virginians had beaten the savage allies of Great Britain at Point Pleasant in 1774, but now they were to war against the Briton from the sea and the barbarian from the wilderness. To meet the former, veteran regiments were placed on Continental establishment, and to protect the western border—West Virginia—two companies of one hundred men each, to be collected in the District of West Augusta, were to join another company commanded by Captain John Nevill and doing service at Pittsburg. Another company of twenty-five men was ordered to Fort Fincastle at Wheeling, while a force of one hundred men from Botetourt county was sent to Fort Randolph at Point Pleasant. Every fort in West Virginia was garrisoned and the Western Military Department was organized with headquarters at Pittsburg.

6. The District of West Augusta.—For years before the Revolution, a part of West Virginia lying west of the Alleghanies was known as the "District of West Augusta." It was without any definite boundary until the same was defined by Act of the Assembly in 1776. Within the bounds as then fixed was included two-thirds of the present county of Randolph, half of Barbour, a third of Tucker, half of Taylor, a third of Preston, nearly the whole of Marion and Monongalia, a fourth of Harrison, half of Doddridge, two-thirds of Tyler and the whole of Wetzel, Marshall, Ohio, Brooke and Hancock. Within the District of West Augusta lived a heroic and patriotic

people. When the British under Tarleton drove the Legislature from Charlottesville and threatened to invade the Shenandoah Valley, a pioneer mother said to her three boys: "Go, my sons, and keep back the foot of the invader, or see my face no more." In the year 1777, the darkest of the Revolution, this incident was related to Washington and he was heard to exclaim: "Leave me but a banner to plant upon the mountains of West Augusta and I will gather around me the men who will lift our bleeding country from the dust and set her free." A succeeding section of the Act defining the boundary, provided for the division of the District into the three counties of Ohio, Youghiogeny and Monongalia.

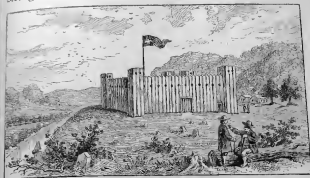
7. Important Events in West Virginia.—Notwithstanding the large number of volunteers, a draft became necessary in 1776, the numbers thus collected in West Virginia counties being as follows: From Berkeley county, 52 men; Hampshire county, 33; Monongalia county, 40; Youghiogeny, 40, and in the county of Ohio a number equal to one-twenty-fifth of its militia. The Governor was authorized by the General Assembly to send any force not exceeding six hundred men to aid in suppressing any outbreak in the Ohio Valley. The Girtys and others deserted from the army at Pittsburg, and British influence was being exercised on the Upper Ohio. Later in the same year the Assembly provided for the enlistment of four hundred men, two hundred of whom were to be stationed at Point Pleasant; fifty at the mouth of the Little Kanawha—now Parkersburg;

fifty at the mouth of Wheeling Creek—now Wheeling, and one hundred at Fort Pitt, for so long a time as the Committee of Safety might deem necessary. Thus were guarded the outposts of West Virginia against the attacks of the allies of Great Britain from the West. The same year Virginia was first laid off in Senatorial Districts, two of which were in West Virginia. These were the twenty-third and twenty-fourth, the former embracing Berkeley and Hampshire counties and the latter the District of West Augusta. The town of Warm Springs in Berkeley county, now Berkeley Springs in Morgan county, was established by Act of the Assembly in 1776, on lands of Thomas, Lord Fairfax, the same having been surveyed by George Washington thirty years before. In this last named year, Moorefield, then in Hampshire, but now the seat of justice of Hardy county, was established a town on lands of Conrad Moore, from whom it was named.

X 8. **Indian Siege of Fort Henry.**—Patrick Henry, in 1776, became the first Commonwealth Governor of Virginia, and in his honor the name of the fort at Wheeling was changed from Fincastle to that of Henry. In September, 1777, a savage army, supplied with arms and provisions by the British Governor, Hamilton, at Detroit, and led on by the white renegade, Simon Girty, appeared before the walls of the fort in which there was a garrison of forty-two fighting men, under the command of Colonel Shepherd. The siege was continued for days, contrary to all the customs of Indian warfare. It ended in failure for

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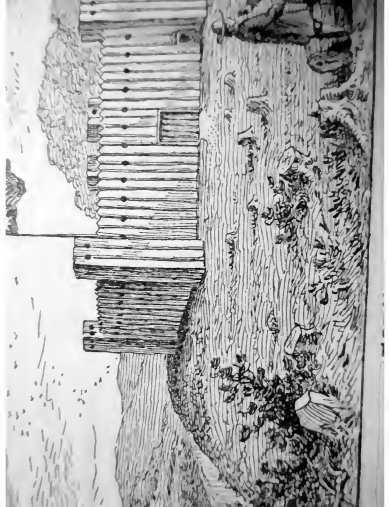
the British cause, for it was unquestionably one of the battles of the Revolution. The Tory whites and savages, who thus laid siege to the fort, were as much



FORT HENRY.—1777.

the mercenary troops of Great Britain as were the Hessians and Waldeckers, who fought at Bennington, Saratoga and in New Jersey. The defense of Fort Henry was one of the most heroic achievements recorded in border warfare.

* Fort Henry at Wheeling was first called "Fort Fincastle," deriving its name from "Fincastle," the country home of Lord Botetourt in England. The fort was planned by Colonel George Rogers Clark, and its erection commenced by Ebenezer Zane and John Caldwell in the spring of 1774. The work was prosecuted by Major Angus McDonald, who in midsummer of the above named year, was joined by Colonel William Crawford, with a force of two hundred men, who soon thereafter completed the stockade fort. Here Lord Dunmore arrived September 30th of the same year, with twelve hundred men, seven hundred of whom came by water down the Monongahela and Ohio, and five hundred marched overland with the army supplies. The red uniforms of the British army were numerous in and around the fort that day.





M'COLLOCH'S LEAP.

dians in the front and rear with an almost perpendicular precipice of one hundred and fifty feet

Major Samuel McCulloch, with a force of forty mounted men, came from Short Creek—now in Brooke county—to the relief of the garrison. The gate was thrown open, but McCulloch was not permitted to enter. The savages attempted to close around him, and he dashed away to Wheeling Hill. Having reached the point on the summit where the toll-gate on the Fulton road is now situated, he found the In-

descent on his right, with Wheeling Creek at its base. Supporting his rifle in his right hand and carefully adjusting the reins in the other, he urged the horse to the brink and made a leap for life. The next moment the noble steed, still bearing his intrepid rider, was at the foot of the steep descent. A dash down the valley of the creek, around the hill, and the soldier was safe within the walls of the beleaguered fort.

10. Slaughter of Captain Foreman and his Men.

—Captain William Foreman, a brave and meritorious officer, organized a company of volunteers in Hampshire county, and in the autumn of 1777, marched from Romney to Wheeling and went into winter-quarters. Several families were then residing on the site of Moundsville and the neighboring hills and the savages were threatening an attack. The people at Wheeling were doing all that was possible to stay the storm, and to do this they hastened away at every alarm.



THE FOREMAN STONE.*

Sunday morning, September 27th, 1777, dense col-

*This stone continued to stand where first erected until the river's tide carried the soil away. Soon the stone would have toppled and fallen but the people were too patriotic to permit this, and it now stands in the cemetery at Moundsville. The

umns of smoke were seen in the direction of Grave Creek, and Colonel Shepherd, commandant at Wheeling, sent Captain Foreman with his company to render assistance, should it be necessary. When they arrived all was quiet; they halted for the night and the next morning started to return to Wheeling. When in the narrows, about four miles above where Moundsville now stands, a deadly fire was poured in on them by an unseen enemy. Captain Foreman, his two sons and eighteen others fell dead upon the field. The few that escaped reached Wheeling. When the war was over, a stone bearing the following inscription was reared upon the fatal spot:

THIS HUMBLE STONE IS ERECTED
TO THE MEMORY OF
CAPTAIN FOREMAN
AND TWENTY OF HIS BRAVE MEN,
WHO WERE SLAIN BY A BAND OF
RUTHLESS SAVAGES
—THE ALLIES OF A CIVILIZED NATION
OF EUROPE—
ON THE 28TH OF SEPTEMBER, 1777.

"So sleep the brave who sink to rest
By all their country's wishes blest."

County Court was the proper body to act and the following inscription recently chiseled upon the stone, tells of its action:

THIS MONUMENT
WAS ORIGINALLY ERECTED ABOVE
THE NARROWS ON THE OHIO RIVER,
FOUR MILES ABOVE MOUNDSVILLE,
ON THE GROUNDS WHERE THE FATAL
ACTION OCCURRED,
AND WITH THE
REMAINS OF CAPT. FOREMAN,
AND HIS FALLEN,
PLACED HERE JUNE 1ST, 1875,
BY CAPTAIN P. B. CATLETT,
UNDER ORDER OF THE COUNTY COURT
OF MARSHALL COUNTY.

11. Murder of Cornstalk at Point Pleasant.—

The brave and noble Shawnee chief, Cornstalk, was atrociously murdered at Point Pleasant, November 10th, 1777. He and another chief, Red Hawk, came on a mission of peace and while remaining within the garrison, he was joined by his son, Elinipsico. The day after the son's arrival, two soldiers, Hamilton and Gilmore, went across the Kanawha river to hunt and were fired upon by the Indians, and Gilmore was killed. Hamilton ran down the river bank, calling for aid. Captain Hall, to whose company the men belonged, with others crossed the river, rescued Hamilton and brought over the dead body of Gilmore. When they returned, they raised the cry, "Kill the Indians in the fort." The command was executed and the three chieftains were speedily put to death. Virginia made an effort to punish the perpetrators of the foul deed, but failed to find the guilty parties.

X 12. Siege of Fort Randolph.—When the Indians heard of the murder of Cornstalk they resolved to avenge his death. A band of them appeared before Fort Randolph at Point Pleasant, and Lieutenant Moore with a small detachment was sent to drive them off. The Indians retreated and drew the Virginians into an ambuscade. Lieutenant Moore and three of his men were killed at the first fire and the remainder of the party saved themselves by flight. Soon after—May 1778—a force of two hundred Indians again appeared before the fort and demanded its surrender. Captain McKee, the commandant, refused to comply, and a furious attack was com-

menced and continued for a week, when the besiegers, finding they made no impression on the fort, collected all the cattle in the vicinity and proceeded up the Great Kanawha river.

X **13. Attack on Donnally's Fort.**—When the Indians withdrew from Fort Randolph, Captain McKee believed their object to be to attack the settlements in Greenbrier, and he asked his men if there were any among them who would volunteer to save the people. John Prior and Philip Hammond said, "We will." They started on their hazardous mission and passed the Indians on Big Clear Creek, within twenty miles of Donnally's Fort, which stood ten miles north of the present site of Lewisburg. They reached the fort at night and the Indians began the attack next morning and continued it throughout the day. Assistance arrived from Fort Savannah in the evening and the Indians were put to flight. The whites had four killed and two wounded. The defense of Fort Donnally was characterized by examples of bravery and heroism unsurpassed in forest warfare.

14. Organization of Illinois County.—In 1778, George Rogers Clarke conquered the Illinois country, and completely destroyed British supremacy therein, and Virginia hastened to make the first effort to establish civil government far to the westward of West Virginia and far beyond the Ohio. In October of the above-named year, the Assembly passed an act creating the county of Illinois from Botetourt. It included all of Virginia's possessions north of the

Ohio river, by which it was bounded on the south and southeast: Pennsylvania and what is West Virginia lay on the east; the Great Lakes bounded it on the north, and the Mississippi washed it on the west. John Todd was appointed County-Lieutenant and Civil-Commandant of Illinois county. He was killed in the battle of Blue Licks, in Kentucky, August 18th, 1782, and his successor in office was Timothy de Montbrunn.

15. General McIntosh in the Ohio Wilderness.—

This officer was made commandant of the Western Military Department, in which West Virginia was included. In 1778, with an army of one thousand men, collected at Pittsburg and Wheeling from the territory embraced in what is now West Virginia and western Pennsylvania, and, descending the Ohio river, marched into the wilderness. In what is now Tuscarawas county, Ohio, he erected a fort, which he named Fort Laurens, in honor of Henry Laurens of South Carolina, the President of the First Continental Congress. Here he left a garrison of one hundred and fifty men, and with the army returned to Pittsburg. The fort was besieged and fourteen of the garrison were killed. Colonel Gibson, the commander, deeming himself unable to hold this distant fortress in the heart of the wilderness, abandoned it in August, 1779, and marched the garrison to Wheeling.

16. Miscellaneous Events in 1778.—A ferry was established over the Potomac from the lands of Abraham Shepherd in Berkeley county to the lands of

Thomas Swearingen, in Maryland, but it was discontinued the next year. The first ferry established over western waters was that over the Monongahela, in 1778, from lands of James Devore to lands opposite. To meet the urgent needs of the Commonwealth in 1780, a tax of one shilling was laid upon every glass window in the State of Virginia and assessors were required to count the same. In the same year a requisition was made upon Virginia for two thousand men for the Continental Army and those apportioned to West Virginia counties were as follows: Berkeley, sixty-eight men; Greenbrier, thirty-four men; Hampshire, sixty-three men; Monongalia, thirty men. No requisition was made on Ohio county, for it was then believed that Pennsylvania would extend to the Ohio river. The Virginia troops were suffering for clothing, and an act of the Assembly required Berkeley county to furnish seventy-one suits; Greenbrier, eight suits; Hampshire, twenty suits. A suit consisted of two shirts of linen or cotton, one pair of overalls, two pairs of stockings, one pair of shoes, and one wool, fur or felt hat or leather cap. Such was the outfit of West Virginia soldiers in the Revolutionary army.

17. Enlistment of West Virginians for the Continental Army.—Early in the war, Virginia placed six regiments on Continental Establishment, and in addition thereto raised another to be known as the German Regiment. This last was recruited largely in the district of West Augusta, the counties of Berkeley and Hampshire, and the adjacent territory. Many of the first settlers of West Virginia served in

its ranks. June 7th, 1781, General Daniel Morgan wrote General William Darke from Winchester and authorized him to raise a regiment in the counties of Berkeley and Hampshire. General Darke hastened to execute the order, and the organization of the troops was speedily completed and they were put in the field. This was the famous Hampshire Regiment, which witnessed the surrender of Cornwallis to the united armies of America and France at Yorktown, October 19th, 1781.

18. Land Titles in West Virginia.—The passage of the Stamp Act by the British Parliament resulted in serious trouble to the founders of West Virginia, especially those on the upper waters of the Potomac. The law required all deeds to be recorded within eight days after execution. But because the hated stamps were required to be placed upon them, several courts, among them that of Hampshire, were either closed or refused to admit to record deeds bearing the royal stamp. To legalize these deeds upon which the frontiersmen refused to place stamps, an act of the Virginia Assembly became necessary and it was enacted, in 1779, that lands to the amount of four hundred acres be confirmed to all settlers along West Virginia rivers, who located prior to 1778. A Board of Commissioners was appointed for the purpose of examining land titles, and its meetings were held at Morgantown.

19. Expedition of Colonel David Brodhead.—The activity of British agents among the Indians kept Virginia's Western Military Department constantly

employed in defending her frontier from the inroads of savage hordes. General Lachlin McIntosh, who was placed at the head of this Department in 1778, was succeeded in 1781 by Colonel David Brodhead. That official resolved at once to strike an effective blow against the Indian towns on the Muskingum. A force of eight hundred of the most daring frontiersmen of Virginia was collected at Wheeling, and at once crossed the Ohio and entered the wilderness. The army crossed the Muskingum river where the town of Zanesville now stands. A number of Indians were captured, all of whom were killed except a few women and children who were carried to Fort Pitt. Then the army disbanded.

X 20. Massacre of the Moravian Indians.—The massacre of the Moravian Indians is one of the darkest crimes recorded in border annals. Reverend Charles Frederick Post, a missionary from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, with his co-laborers, John Heckewelder and others of the Moravian faith, had gone into the Ohio wilderness and there established missions at which were gathered the Indians who had become Christians through the teachings of these devoted men. Among these stations were Gnaden-hutten, Schonbrunn and Lichtenau. The savages continued their warfare along the border, and in May, 1782, Colonel David Williamson collected a body of men near where Steubenville, Ohio, now stands, and from there marched toward the Indian country. They reached the towns of these Christian Indians, where ninety-four of the innocent and unsuspecting victims

were put to death. Loskiel, the Moravian historian, characterizes this act as "the most infamous in the border wars of the West."

21. Colonel William Crawford's Sandusky Campaign.—In 1782 an army of four hundred and eighty men gathered on the Ohio side of the river above Wheeling, and under the command of Colonel William Crawford, a native of Berkeley county, now West Virginia, marched against the Wyandotte towns on the Sandusky plains. A weary march was completed and an encampment was made within the present bounds of Wyandotte county, Ohio. Here on the 4th of June, 1782, was fought the battle of Sandusky, in which the whites were defeated, with a loss of more than a hundred killed and wounded. The next day the routed army began its retreat toward the Ohio. The Indians made rapid pursuit, and many of the fugitives were captured and met with a worse fate than that of their comrades killed in battle. One of these thus taken prisoner was Colonel Crawford, who was afterward burned at the stake. Thus was terribly avenged the slaughter of the Moravian Indians—but not upon the perpetrators of that barbarous act.

22. British Troops Attack a West Virginia Fort.—On the 11th day of September, 1782, Fort Henry at Wheeling was a second time besieged. The attacking party consisted of a company of British soldiers, known as the "Queen's Rangers," under the command of Captain Pratt, and a body of Indians, savage allies of Great Britain, at the head of which was the notorious renegade, Simon Girty, who had deserted

the American army at Pittsburg in 1778, and had gone over to the British interest. The Indians were armed and equipped by Governor Hamilton of Canada. The British flag was carried at the head of the attacking column, from the leader of which came the demand to surrender. This was refused, and the fort was stormed, and there was a blaze of fire around its walls; never was a sight rendered more hideous than was that which followed the attack. For thirty hours that beleaguered fort sustained the shock of the combined force of British and Indians, but at the end of this time, the siege was raised and Fort Henry was never more attacked.

X 23. **Heroic Achievement of Elizabeth Zane.**—At the time when the attack upon the fort was being pressed at every point, Colonel Shepherd explained to the men that the powder within the walls was almost exhausted, and that the only source from which a supply could come was the house of Ebenezer Zane, about sixty yards from the gate of the fort. The Colonel asked whether any man would undertake the hazardous task of securing some of the powder. Three young men stepped forward, but while the matter was being discussed, a young lady, Elizabeth Zane, sister of Ebenezer and Silas Zane, came forward and insisted that she should be permitted to make the desperate attempt, saying that her life could be better spared than that of a man at such a critical time. The gate was opened and she glided away to her brother's house, where she secured the powder, and then began the return. A volley was discharged at her, but the

bullets flew wide of the mark, and she entered the gate in safety, and thus saved Fort Henry. The pages of history may furnish a parallel to the exploit of Elizabeth Zane, but an instance of greater heroism is nowhere to be found.

24. The End of the Revolutionary War.—The Revolution closed in 1783, and the Colonies of 1776 had become the recognized nation of North America. How many West Virginia pioneers served during this war we do not know. But certain it is that the founders of our State were represented on almost every battlefield of the Revolution. The muster rolls of Virginia regiments are still in existence, and it is safe to say that, of the men composing the Hampshire Rifle Regiment alone, there are descendants in almost every county of the State. When the war was past, many old heroes found homes and lived and died in West Virginia. They had marked with their blood the snows of the North, and had marched and counter-marched through the pestilential swamps of the South. Of all the American States, West Virginia stands in point of service next to the Original Thirteen Colonies.

X **25. Three West Virginia Major-Generals of the Revolution.**—Three Major-Generals of the Revolutionary War lived in Berkeley county, West Virginia. These were Alexander Stephen, Charles Lee and Horatio Gates. The former lies buried near Martinsburg. General Lee resided about ten miles from Martinsburg. General Gates was an English officer with Braddock at the battle of Monongahela in 1755, where he was shot through the body. He purchased

a farm in Berkeley county, where he resided until the beginning of the Revolution, when he entered the American army and made a world-wide reputation by his capture of Burgoyne at Saratoga, in 1777. After the war, he returned to his home in Berkeley, where he resided until 1790, when he removed to New York, where he died April 10th, 1806.



GENERAL HORATIO GATES.

26. The Early Days of Martinsburg.—Martinsburg is situated upon the site of what was once the chief town of the Tuscarora Indians, the little stream on which it is situated still bearing the name of Tuscarora creek. The town was created by legislative enactment in October, 1778, on lands of Adam Stephen, and named from Colonel T. B. Martin, one of the heirs of Lord Fairfax. November 30th, 1793, the Assembly directed the trustees to establish a market house, and February 9th, 1813, it was enacted that "all free white male persons, being citizens of Virginia, and free-holders of the said town" should meet in the ensuing April and elect a board of trustees therefor. The Martinsburg academy was established January 8th, 1822, with David Hunter, Elisha Boyd, Philip C. Pendleton, John S. Harrison, and John R. Cook, trustees.

CHAPTER X.

WEST VIRGINIA AFTER THE REVOLUTION.

From 1785 to 1795.

1. **Mason and Dixon's Line.**—So long as the country remained a wilderness the question of boundaries was of little consequence, but when settlements began to be made, disputes arose between Virginia and Pennsylvania. The southern boundary of Pennsylvania as defined in the grant to William Penn, was a line extending from the Delaware river five degrees west. With this Virginia had nothing to do until the western boundary of Maryland was passed, but beyond that both Virginia and Pennsylvania claimed jurisdiction and so bitter was the dispute that it almost ended in civil war.

2. **The Surveyors at Work.**—In November, 1763, Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, two eminent surveyors of London, came to America to fix the boundary and on Cedar (now South) street, Philadelphia, they erected an observatory to enable them to ascertain the latitude of that city. Having done this, they fixed a stone from which to begin the celebrated "Mason and Dixon's Line." Slowly the surveyors proceeded westward and on October 27th, 1765, they were on the summit of North mountain, ninety-five miles west of the Susquehanna river. Here the work was stopped until the next year when it was

completed to the summit of the Alleghanies, where the Six Nations forbade further prosecution of the work. But their consent was secured and the work went on in 1767, until the Catawba war-path near Mount Morris, now in Green county, Pennsylvania, was reached, where it was again stopped by the Indians and here for fifteen years the Line terminated.

3. The Line Completed.—When the Revolution closed, Virginia and Pennsylvania, raised to the dignity of independent States, agreed amicably to adjust all boundary disputes. To perform this work, Dr. James Madison and Robert Andrews were appointed on the part of the former and John Ewing, George Bryan and David Rittenhouse on the part of the latter. The commissioners met at Baltimore in 1780, and began the work of extending Mason and Dixon's Line five degrees west from the Delaware river. But the Indians again stopped them and nothing was done for four years. Then a part of the commissioners reared an observatory at Wilmington, Delaware, and the others journeyed west and on the loftiest peak of the Fish Creek Hills erected another. Supplied with astronomical instruments, both parties, from their respective stations, for six weeks observed such celestial phenomena as would enable them to determine their respective meridians. From the data thus obtained, they determined the location of the *fifth meridian* west from the Delaware river, and here they planted a post to mark the southwest corner of Pennsylvania as the terminus of Mason and Dixon's Line.

4. **Virginia's Cession of the Northwest Territory.**—All of the vast region extending from the Ohio to the Mississippi and bounded on the north by the Great Lakes was known as the Northwest Territory, and claimed by Virginia, New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut. Virginia based her claim upon charters from the English King, upon the conquest of the country by General George Rogers Clarke, and upon the fact that she had established civil government in it by the creation of Illinois county. The smaller States, prominently Maryland, insisted that this region should be the property of the Nation and not of individual States. Virginia joined the other claimants in surrendering the territory, and in 1784, Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Hardy, Arthur Lee and James Monroe, for Virginia, executed a Deed of Cession to Congress, by which the State forever relinquished jurisdiction in the territory beyond the Ohio. This session and the running of the western boundary of Pennsylvania north from the western terminus of Mason and Dixon's Line, left a narrow strip between the said western line and the Ohio, which has ever since been known as the "Pan-Handle."

X 5. **Ferries Established.**—The first ferry on the South Branch of the Potomac was established in 1782, from the lands of Ralph Humphrey to lands opposite. In 1785 a ferry was established across the Monongahela at the mouth of Decker's creek. This year the first ferry on Tygart's Valley river was established from the lands of John Pettyjohns, to

lands opposite in Monongalia county. At the same time two ferries were established over Cheat river, one from the lands of Jacob Scott and the other from the lands of Thomas Butler, both in Monongalia county. The first ferry on New river was established in 1787, from lands of Charles Lynch in the county of Montgomery; and the same year the first ferry over the Ohio was established from lands of Robert Wood in Ohio county, to lands opposite in the Northwest Territory. The first ferry in Harrison county was established over Elk creek on lands of George Jackson in 1786. The same year a ferry was located by legislative enactment over the Greenbrier river where the town of Alderson now stands, and a year later Crow's ferry was established over the Potomac at the junction of the North and South Branches.

6. Legal Establishment of West Virginia Towns.

—In 1785, Clarksburg was established at the junction of Elk creek and the West Fork of the Monongahela on lands on which John Simpson had reared his cabin in 1764. Morgantown was established the same year. A year later Charlestown—then in Berkeley but now the seat of justice of Jefferson county—was made a town by legislative enactment, on lands the property of Charles Washington, from whom it derived its name. In October, 1787, the town of West Liberty, in Ohio county, was established on lands of Reuben Foreman and Providence Mounts. It was the seat of justice of Ohio county until 1797, when it was removed to Wheeling. The same year Middletown, in Ber-

9. Jefferson's Notes on the State of Virginia.—

The first literary work that related in any manner to what is now West Virginia, was the "Notes on the State of Virginia," written by Thomas Jefferson, third president of the United States, and published in Paris, France, in 1784, because the work could be done more cheaply there than in America. The edition consisted of but two hundred copies, some of which were distributed in Europe, but the greater number in America. The work was reprinted in France and this country. The author described with great exactness the rivers and mountains of West Virginia, having had access doubtless to the journals of Gist and other early explorers within the present limits of the State.

X 10. The First Steamboat in the World.—Shepherdstown is famous for having been the residence of James Rumsey, who was the first man in the world to propose steam as a substitute for wind in propelling vessels. He built a steamer on the Potomac in 1784, which was tested on the broad reach of that river at Shepherdstown, in the presence of General Washington and other distinguished men of the day. The material and workmanship, together with the tools used, were those of an ordinary blacksmith shop. After patenting his invention, Rumsey went to London where greater facilities were offered for perfecting it. There he built a steamer which was tested on the Thames. December 20th, 1792, while explaining his invention before the Society of Arts, of London, he placed his hand upon his head and complained of

This was his last abode. He died a few hours later and was buried at St. Margaret's, in Westminster Abbey. He is the only West Virginian whose dust sleeps with that of the great men of England. Thus one of the world's greatest inventors

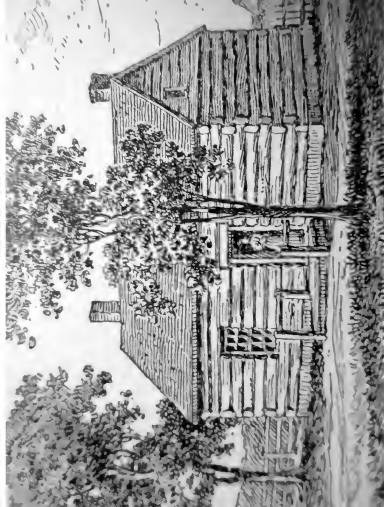


DWELLING OF JAMES RUMSEY AT SHEPHERDSTOWN.*

was a West Virginian and he found a grave in a foreign land. The honor of the invention has been long claimed for others, and it is now time that the great wrong be corrected and credit given to him to whom it rightfully belongs, and whose claims are beyond successful contradiction.

11. The Federal Constitution.—Soon after the close of the Revolution it was seen that while the Articles of Confederation had bound the Colonies together in time of war they were not adapted to the new order of things. And for the purpose of forming

*From a drawing made by Henry Howe, Esq., the distinguished historian and artist, in 1843.



"a more perfect union," the Federal Constitution was framed. It had to be ratified by three-fourths of the States before it could become operative. The Virginia Convention which met for this purpose was composed of some of the most eminent men in the State. Seven counties existed in what is now West Virginia. These, with their representatives were



ARCHIBALD WOODS.*

as follows: Berkeley, William Darke and Adam Stephen; Greenbrier, George Clendenin and John Stuart; Hampshire, Andrew Woodrow and Ralph Humphreys; Harrison, George Jackson and John Prunty; Hardy, Isaac VanMatre and Abel Seymour; Monongalia, John Evans and William McCleery; Ohio, Archibald Woods and Eben-

ezer Zane. These representatives belonged to that class of men of whom it was said: "They are farmers to-day, statesmen to-morrow and soldiers always."

*Archibald Woods, prominent in the early history of Wheeling, was born November 14th, 1764, near Charlottesville, Virginia. In 1781 he enlisted in the Revolutionary army, and served until the close of the war, soon after which he removed to Ohio county. Here he was appointed a Justice of the Peace. With Ebenezer Zane he represented Ohio county in the Virginia Convention of 1788, which ratified the Federal Constitution and for which action both voted. He mustered troops for the War of 1812, and started on the march with them, but all were ordered to return before reaching the field of action. He was long connected with the business interests of Wheeling. He died October 26th, 1846.

12. **The Founding of Charleston.**—The land on which the city of Charleston now stands was granted in 1773 to Colonel Thomas Bullitt for services in the French and Indian War. He sold it to his brother Cutlibert, of Maryland, who transferred it to his son Cathbert of Prince William county, Virginia. Charles



WILLIAM CLENDENIN.*

Clendenin removed to the Greenbrier Valley as early as 1780. He had four sons—George, William, Robert and Alexander—all distinguished in border war. George rose to prominence and in 1787, when in Richmond, he purchased the land at the mouth of the Elk river, and a year later removed to it with his

aged father, brothers and an only sister. Here these founders of the future capital of West Virginia, on May 1st, 1788, began the erection of a block-house, which later served the purpose of dwelling, fort, court-house and jail. It was afterwards known as Fort Lee, so-called in honor of Governor Henry Lee, of Virginia. Soon others came to dwell in and

*Captain William Clendenin, one of the founders of Charleston, was a prominent frontiersman. He was wounded at the battle of Point Pleasant in 1774. He was one of the first justices of Kanawha county, which he represented in the Virginia Assembly in 1796, and 1801. He was high sheriff in 1802-3, and in the latter year carried the petition to Richmond asking for the formation of Mason county. It was created in 1804, and Captain Clendenin, then residing on the Ohio, within the limits of the new county, became its first representative in the General Assembly.

around the fort and in December, 1794, the General Assembly enacted "That forty acres of land, the property of George Cleundenin, at the mouth of Elk river in the County of Kanawha, as the same are already laid off into lots and streets, shall be established a town by the name of Charleston," so called from Charles, the father of the Cleundenin brothers, who were its founders.

13. Harmar's Expedition against the Western Indians.—The Indians still continued the war, and in 1790 General Josiah Harmar, with an army of fourteen hundred and fifty men, was sent against them. This force was organized at Fort Washington, now Cincinnati, from which place it marched on September 26th, its objective point being the Indian towns at the junction of the St. Mary's and St. Joseph's rivers—now Fort Wayne, Indiana. On October 22d, when within twenty miles of its destination, the army was attacked by a large body of Indians, who fought with such desperation that Harmar's army was thrown into utter confusion and retreated to Fort Washington, leaving the dead unburied on the field.

14. Residence of Daniel Boone in West Virginia.—Daniel Boone, the founder of Kentucky, spent several years as a resident of the Great Kanawha Valley. The cause which led to his removal from Kentucky is but another instance of man's injustice to man. Boone had been the first white man to find a home in the wilds of Kentucky, and when the wars were ended, he settled down to rest the remainder of his days. But the sheriff informed him that the title to his lands was

disputed, and suits entered against him. He could not understand this. He made no defense, but stung by ingratitude, he left Kentucky never to return. He



DANIEL BOONE.

went to the home of his childhood on the Schuylkill, but all was changed, and there could be no home there for him. Coming to the Great Kanawha Valley, he found congenial friends among the founders of Charleston. With George Clendenin he represented Kanawha county in the Virginia Assembly in 1791.

About the year 1798, he sought and found a home with his son, Daniel M. Boone, in Upper Louisiana. There he died in 1820, and in 1845 his remains were removed to Frankfort, Kentucky, where they now rest.

15. The Town of Wellsburg.—The town of Wellsburg, the seat of justice of Brooke county, was laid out by Charles Prather, from whom it received the name of Charlestown. It was established by legislative enactment, December 7th, 1791. By an act of the General Assembly passed December 27th, 1816, the name was changed from Charlestown to Wellsburg, in honor of Alexander Wells, who married the only daughter of Charles Prather. Brooke Academy at Wellsburg was incorporated by act of the Assembly passed January 10th, 1799. In 1852, it was by legislative enactment authorized to transfer its property to the Meade Collegiate Institute.

16. Frontier Forts, Blockhouses and Stockades.

—Such were the names given to the various kinds of structures for defense. A range of cabins usually formed at least one side of the fort. Partitions of logs separated the cabins one from another. The walls of these cabins on the outside were ten or twelve feet high, the slope of the roof being turned wholly inward. The blockhouses were built at the corners of the fort and projected about two feet beyond the outer walls of the cabins and stockades. The upper stories were about eighteen inches larger in diameter than the lower one, thus providing an opening at the commencement of the former to prevent the enemy from gaining a position under the walls. In some of these forts, instead of blockhouses, the corners were furnished with bastions. The fort was always near a spring or stream of water, and a large folding gate next to it, made of thick slabs, was the only point of entrance or exit. The walls were furnished with port-holes at proper heights and distances. The whole of the outside was made bullet-proof.

17. The Beginning of Wheeling.—On a bright morning in 1770, Colonel Ebenezer Zane stood on the bank of the Ohio river, just above the mouth of Wheeling creek. He was the founder of a future city. Erecting a cabin, he remained a year, and then went east to induce some friends to remove with him to his home on the Ohio river. He was successful. His two brothers, John and Silas, came and spent the summer of 1772, and in the early part of 1773, other settlers came. Thus was made the permanent settle-

most of a future city. Wheeling was laid out in town lots by Ebenezer Zaue in 1793, and December 26th, 1795, it was made a town by legislative enactment. The town was incorporated January 16th, 1806, and by an act of the Assembly, March 11th, 1836, the town of Wheeling was incorporated into the city of Wheeling. The first court for Ohio county was held at Black's cabin, on Short creek, January 16th, 1777. Later the sessions were held at West Liberty, and in 1797, Wheeling became the seat of justice, and the court met at that place May 7th of that year at the house of John Gooding.

18. The Defeat of General St. Clair.—The only effect of General Harmar's campaign was to intensify the hostilities of the savages, and they waged a fierce and relentless warfare upon the frontier of Virginia and that of Kentucky. To stay the tide of blood, President Washington appointed General Arthur St. Clair to the command of the army of the Northwest. That officer proceeded to Fort Washington, whence the ill-fated expedition of General Harmar had marched, and there an army of twenty-three hundred men was speedily collected. On September 27th, 1791, it was put in motion and filed away into the wilderness. On November 3d, the army encamped in what is now Mercer county, Ohio, within two miles of the present Indiana state line. Here it was attacked, and no battle of the Northwest was ever attended with such a loss of human life. St. Clair's army became a band of fugitives, most of whom finally reached Fort Washington.

19. West Virginians at St. Clair's Defeat.—One of the most distinguished military men of West Vir-



GENERAL WILLIAM DARKE *

ginia was General William Darke of Berkeley county. He won honor at the battle of Monongahela and served with distinction throughout the Revolutionary war. In 1791, as commandant of the Second Virginia regiment, he marched across West Virginia, and descended the Ohio to Fort Washington, where his regiment became an important part of the army of St. Clair. At the defeat of that army General Darke led three desperate charges and was the coolest man on that bloody and chaotic field. His regiment was composed almost en-

tirely of West Virginians and of those who lost their

*General William Darke, a distinguished soldier, was born near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1735, and came with his parents to what is now Berkeley county, West Virginia, in 1741, when but six years of age. He was with Braddock at the battle of Monongahela, in 1755, and thereafter for fifteen years was engaged in

lives on that fatal field, eighty are reported to have been from Berkeley county alone. Long years after the mournful story of their fall was rehearsed in the mountain homes of West Virginia, and old soldiers chanted "St. Clair's Defeat," which told in plaintive accents how,

"We lost nine hundred men on the banks of the St. Mary."

—/ **20. Wayne's Victory; The Savage Power Broken.**

—For a hundred years a merciless warfare had been waged against the frontier settlements, but the time was now come when the savage power was to be broken. Gen. Anthony Wayne—"Mad Anthony"—was placed in command of an army of more than three thousand men which was collected at Fort Washington for the purpose of invading the Indian

the Indian wars on the western border. He entered the Revolutionary army in 1776, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and together with the greater part of his regiment, was taken prisoner at Germantown, and detained on board a British prison-ship, until November 1st, 1780, when he was exchanged. In 1781 he recruited his regiment, known as the "Hampshire and Berkeley Regiment," and with it was present at the siege of Yorktown, where, October 19th, 1781, he saw Cornwallis surrender his army to the Americans. He was a member of the Virginia Convention of 1788, which ratified the Federal Constitution, for which measure he cast his vote. Promoted to the rank of Colonel, he marched at the head of the Second Virginia Regiment, in 1791, and joined the ill-fated army of General St. Clair at Fort Washington, now Cincinnati. He saved the remnant of the army at St. Clair's defeat, on the banks of St. Mary's, near the present boundary line between Indiana and Ohio. Among the slain was his son, Captain Joseph Darke. General Darke died November 26th, 1801, and is buried in a neglected graveyard a short distance from Shenandoah Junction, in Jefferson county. His name is commemorated in the town of Darkesville, West Virginia, and in that of Darke county, Ohio.

country. On the 2d of August, 1795, the army was at Fallen Timbers, on the Maumee, now in Lucas county, Ohio. Here was concentrated the fighting force of the Indians, and here was waged the last battle for race supremacy in the Northwest. Wayne's victory was complete, and the "Treaty of Greenville," which followed, forever put an end to savage warfare on the south side of the Ohio, and West Virginia pioneers were for the first time safe in their cabin homes.

CHAPTER XI.

WEST VIRGINIA AT THE CLOSE OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

From 1795 to 1800.

1. **A Permanent Peace.**—The close of the Indian wars secured a lasting peace to the founders of West Virginia, who had so long braved the perils of pioneer life. Now they went forth to another conquest—not with rifles but with the axe to conquer the wilderness, thus insuring to themselves and their posterity a rich inheritance. They were hundreds of miles from the marts of trade and almost entirely isolated from society, yet these men carved out a society of their own and established a code of morals as rigid as any known in older lands. The records of their first courts contain many entries showing indictments for Sabbath breaking and profanity.

X 2. **Anne Bailey, the Pioneer Heroine of the Great Kanawha Valley.**—One of the most remarkable personages of pioneer times was Anne Bailey, who has been called the Pioneer Heroine of the Great Kanawha Valley. Her maiden name was Hennis. She was born in Liverpool, England, in 1742, and came to America in 1761, stopping with relatives in Augusta County, Virginia. She wedded Richard Trotter, a soldier who was killed at the battle of Point Pleasant.

When she heard of her husband's death a strange wild dream seemed to possess her. She donned male attire and ranged the wilderness as scout and messenger so long as the Indian wars lasted. November 3d, 1785, she was married a second time to John Bailey at Lewisburg. When the wars were ended she went to live with William Trotter, an only son, in what is now Gallia county, Ohio, where she died November 22d, 1825.

3. The West Virginia-Kentucky Boundary.—

The boundary line between Virginia and Kentucky as agreed upon by the two States in 1795, is the same as that now existing between West Virginia and Kentucky. Friday, December 25th, 1795, Governor Brooke appointed Archibald Stuart, Joseph Martin and Creed Taylor, commissioners on the part of Virginia, to assist in fixing the boundary between the two States. To co-operate with these, the Governor of Kentucky named John Coburn, Robert Johnson and Buckner Thurston. These commissioners met, in 1799, at Cumberland Gap, now on the northern boundary of Tennessee, and began their work. From there the line was marked along the highest part of the Cumberland Mountains to the head waters of the west fork of Big Sandy and thence to the Tug Fork; thence down that stream to its junction with the west branch and thence down main Sandy to its confluence with the Ohio. The surveyors marked trees along the line with the letters "V. K."—Virginia and Kentucky.

X 4. The Founding of Harper's Ferry.—Harper's Ferry is the most eastern town in West Virginia and

Derives its name from Robert Harper, an Englishman who was a carpenter and mill-wright, residing near Philadelphia. In 1747, he was employed to build a church for the Quakers on Opequon river. Arriving at Frederick, Maryland, he expected to go to his destination by way of Antietam, but was induced by one Hoffman to go by "The Hole," as the present site of Harper's Ferry was then called. On reaching the place he found the spot occupied by the cabin of Peter Stevens, who had erected it in 1734. Harper was so much pleased with the surroundings that he bought the claim from Stevens for fifty British guineas, and afterward purchased the title from the agent of Lord Fairfax. Harper brought his family to this place, which he made his permanent residence. He died in 1782. A ferry was established across the Potomac, by the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1761, and the place has ever since been known as "Harper's Ferry."

/ 5. **United States Arsenal Established at Harper's Ferry.**—In the year 1794, Congress passed an act establishing an arsenal and gun manufactory at Harper's Ferry. The same year the Virginia Assembly granted to the National Government the right to purchase a tract of land not to exceed six hundred and forty acres, upon which to erect the necessary buildings, and for other purposes. In 1798, the work was begun. In 1799, it seemed that war would break out between the United States and France, and the former in anticipation of such an event, organized a military force which it held ready for service. The

10th Regiment of United States Infantry, commanded by General Alexander Hamilton, was sent to Harper's Ferry and there spent the winter. The high land on which it encamped has ever since been known as "Camp Hill."

X 6. The "Memorandum" of Colonel John Stuart.—Colonel John Stuart was one of the most distinguished frontiersmen of West Virginia. Born in Virginia in 1750, he came with others to the Greenbrier wilderness in 1769, and halted near the present site of the town of Frankfort, in Greenbrier county, where he reared his cabin as a bethel over his first camping spot in the wilds of West Virginia. He commanded a company in the army of General Andrew Lewis, at the battle of Point Pleasant in 1774, and witnessed the murder of the Indian chieftain, Cornstalk, at that place November 10th, 1777. Upon the formation of Greenbrier county, he became Clerk of the Court, a position which he held for many years. July 15th, 1798, he wrote in Deed Book No. 1, in the office of the Greenbrier County Court, an extended "Memorandum," to which we are indebted for much of our knowledge of the early settlements of the Greenbrier Valley.

X 7. Education in West Virginia Prior to the Year 1800.—We have but few records of educational work in West Virginia before the year 1800, but the old-time schoolmaster was then abroad in the land. The first effort to establish a school on the Ohio River, appears to have been made at Charlestown—now Wellsburg—in Brooke county in 1778, and the nucleus

ents formed seems to have expanded into Brooke Academy, which was incorporated in 1799. The first effort to establish a school of high grade in central West Virginia was that of Randolph Academy at Clarksburg, incorporated in 1785. Among the trustees of this institution were Governor Edmund Randolph, Benjamin Harrison, Patrick Henry and Ebenezer Zane. When a school was first established at Shepherdstown—the oldest town in the State—is not known. But Reverend Robert Stubbs who, December 3d, 1787, made affidavit that he had witnessed the trial of Rumsey's steamboat on the Potomac, subscribed himself, "Teacher of the Academy of Shepherdstown." Charlestown Academy in Jefferson County was incorporated in 1797.

8. Early West Virginia Pensioners.—Very soon after Virginia became an independent State, the Assembly began to make provision for the men who had been disabled in the military service of the Commonwealth. This was before the creation of the Pension Bureau of the Federal Government. In 1790, Thomas Price, of Randolph county, was placed on the pension rolls of the State because of wounds received at the battle of Point Pleasant. James Price and Abraham Nettles, of Greenbrier county, were granted pensions for services during the Revolution. In 1792, the names of Alexander Stewart and Benjamin Blackburne were added because of wounds received at the battle of Point Pleasant, and two years later, that of James Robinson was enrolled for the same cause.

\9. **The Homes of the Pioneers.**—One of the frontiersmen has this to say of their homes: "In the whole display of furniture, the delft, china and silver were unknown. It did not then, as now, require

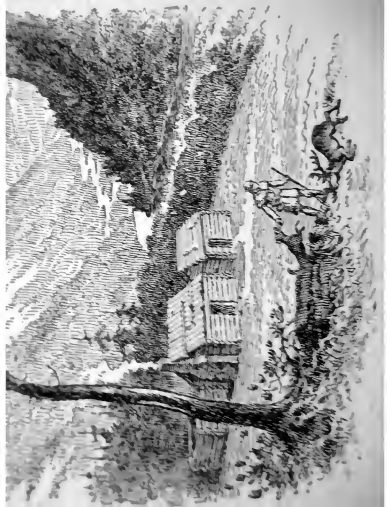


PIONEER LIFE IN WEST VIRGINIA.

contribution from the four quarters of the globe to furnish the breakfast table, viz.: the silver from Mexico; the coffee from the West Indies; the tea from China; and the delft and porcelain from Europe or Asia. Yet our homely fare and unsightly cabins and furniture produced the hardy

race, who planted the first footsteps of civilization in the immense region of the West. Inured to hardship, bravery and valor from their early youth, they sustained with manly fortitude the fatigue of the chase, the campaign and scout, and with strong arms turned the wilderness into fruitful fields, and have left to their descendants the rich inheritance of an immense commonwealth blessed with peace, wealth and prosperity."

\10. **Character of the Pioneers.**—The first inhabitants of West Virginia were as hardy a race as ever braved the perils of the wilderness, but the men who



...erred it, have all fallen by the hand of death and many of them whose deeds deserved a monument, scarce found a tomb. Time has waged a merciless warfare upon the memorials of the Pioneer Age, which was to Virginia what the Heroic Age was to Greece. The men who settled in West Virginia prior to the close of the last century, knew when they came that it was to do or to die. A fierce, implacable and deadly foe met them at every hand. To succeed required caution, energy, courage, hope. All of these they possessed in an eminent degree, and they therefore won the rich inheritance which they have transmitted to their descendants.

11. **Early House Building in West Virginia.**—A family would leave the settled portions east of the mountains, cross the same, and journey through the forest or along the river, until a suitable location was found. Then a halt was made and house building began. Small trees were felled and logs cut to the proper length and then collected at the spot selected. Then the structure was raised. Clap-boards were split with a tool called a frow, and placed on the rib-poles of the house, and then weight-poles were laid on to hold the boards in place. Slabs, called puncheons, were then split and after being partially smoothed with the axe were laid down for a floor. Then spaces between the logs were filled with chinks and daubed with mortar made of clay. A huge fireplace occupied one end of the structure, and over it was erected a chimney made of sticks and clay, and called a "cat-and-clay" chimney. The house was usually of one

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story. In such houses as these were born many of the men who have made the Commonwealth of West Virginia what it is to-day.

X 12. **West Virginia at the Close of the Eighteenth Century.**—At the close of the year 1800 there was a busy population in West Virginia numbering 78,592, there having been but 55,873 in 1790. Homes of thrift and industry gave evidence of long years of settlement in the Eastern Pan-Handle, while from the Alleghany mountains to the Ohio, cabin homes dotted the landscape. No sounding bell called these frontiersmen to the place of worship, but they were worshipers in all that the term implies. Ministers of all the leading denominations had gone among them, and after organizing a congregation had made the home of the pioneer a preaching place; and there the men who were felling the forest on the hills and in the valleys, gathered for services as often as the itinerant minister came. Thirteen of the present counties had an existence and Wheeling, Wellsburg, Clarksburg, Martinsburg, Shepherdstown, Parkersburg, Point Pleasant and Charleston were frontier villages.

CHAPTER XII.

From 1800 to 1811.

1. **The Beginning of the Century.**—At the beginning of the 19th century there was, as stated, a population of 78,592 in what is now West Virginia as determined by the census of 1800, and thirteen of the present counties had an existence. The Assembly, in 1801, passed various acts relating to matters west of the mountains. Ferries were established over the Ohio and Little Kanawha rivers at Parkersburg, and over the Great Kanawha at the mouth of Cole river. The town of Union, in Monroe county, began its legal existence. The Monongahela and Little Kanawha rivers were declared to be public highways, as was Elk creek as far up as "Jackson's Mill." A road from Romney through Berkeley county to the "Federal City" was directed to be constructed. The "Cross Roads," now Pruntytown, in Taylor county, was made a town by legislative enactment.

2. **Events in 1802.**—Commissioners were appointed to view and mark a road from Keys' Ferry on the Shenandoah river through Berkeley and Hampshire counties to intersect the Maryland road near Gywnn's Tavern; these commissioners were required to meet at the mouth of New creek to begin their work. Forest fires were common, often from accident, but sometimes resulted from malicious intent and a penalty of

\$30 was fixed for each such offense. A wagon road was constructed over the mountains from the headwaters of the James river to the plantation of Carroll Morris on the Great Kanawha river, the work being superintended by David Ruffner.

3. A French Traveler in West Virginia.—In the year 1802 F. A. Michaux, M. D., a celebrated French physician and botanist, left Philadelphia, and, passing over the mountains, traversed the northern portion of West Virginia. On the morning of July 16th of the above named year he reached West Liberty, in Ohio county, which had been made a town by legislative enactment, November 20th, 1787, on lands owned by Reuben Foreman and Providence Mounce. This traveler, speaking of it, says: "We passed through West Liberty Town, a small town of about a hundred houses built on the side of a hill. The plantations in its neighborhood are numerous, and the soil, though unequal, is fertile. The price of land depends on its quality. The best in the proportion of twenty-five acres of cleared land in a lot of two or three hundred is not more than three or four piasters an acre."

4. Occurrences in the Year 1803.—A ferry was established over Fishing creek and another over Guyandotte river near its junction with the Ohio. It was represented to the Assembly, that because of the incursions of the Indians, William Clendenin, sheriff of Kanawha, had been unable to collect the taxes in that county for the years 1792-3-4, and an act was passed giving him two additional years in which to make the said collections. The Court of Wood county was

instructed by the General Assembly to appoint five commissioners to ascertain whether the erection of mills on the Little Kanawha river would be any obstruction to navigation and to report thereon to the Court.

5. **The Last Survivor of the Lewis and Clarke Expedition.**—In the year 1803 the United States purchased from France all that vast region west of the Mississippi, known as Louisiana territory. Of this

addition to the domain of the United States, but little was known, and Congress, the same year, made an appropriation and empowered President Jefferson to have it explored. To prosecute this work, he chose Meriwether Lewis and William Clarke, both of Virginia. They made the necessary preparation, and with a band of forty-three adventurers, rendezvoused on the Mississippi at the mouth of Du Bois River, where the winter of 1803 was spent. Monday, the 4th day of



MERIWETHER LEWIS
IN INDIAN COSTUME.*

May, 1804, the expedition began the journey up the

*Captain Meriwether Lewis, associate of Captain Clarke, was a nephew of President Jefferson, and was born in Albemarle county, Virginia, August 19th, 1774. Entering the army, he served during the Whisky Insurrection in 1794. He rose to the rank of Captain in 1800, and the next year became the private secretary of the President. After the return of the expedition he was appointed—1807—Governor of Louisiana Territory. In 1809 he started on an overland journey to Washington, and on the morning of October



long and silent river toward the Rocky Mountains. On the 25th, they passed the most western outpost of civilization and began the march into an unknown country. Onward they



PATRICK GASS.*

pressed through the homes of wild beasts and savage men; up the Missouri; over the vast mountain barriers and down the Columbia, until at length, on the 16th of November, 1805, they stood at its mouth and the Pacific Ocean lay before them. The return journey began, and on the 23d of September, 1806, the expedition reached St. Louis,

11th of that year was found dead in his room at a wayside inn in Tennessee. Whether he died by his own hand or that of an assassin will never be known.

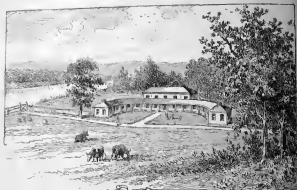
* Patrick Gass, the last survivor of the Lewis and Clarke Expedition, was born June 12th, 1771, in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. Soon after the family removed to Maryland, but shortly returned to Pennsylvania. When but a boy he entered the army, and when not on the march or scouting he was engaged in garrison duty in the forts on the Upper Ohio. The United States, in 1799, in anticipation of a war with France, enlisted troops for the army. Patrick Gass enrolled himself as a member of the 10th regiment, which spent the winter of 1799 in camp at Harper's Ferry. In 1802 he served under Captain Bissell on the Tennessee river, and the next year went to Kaskaskia, Illinois. Here he enlisted as a member of the expedition, then fitting out to explore the Pacific Coast. In 1812 he entered the army again, and participated in the battles of Chippewa, Lundy's Lane and Fort Erie. In 1831 he married a lady in Brooke county—now in West Virginia—where he continued to reside until his death in 1870, then in his ninety-ninth year.

having spent two years, four months and nineteen days beyond the confines of civilization. Patrick Gass, of Brooke county, West Virginia, was the journal-keeper of the expedition. He kept a diary of events, which was published at Pittsburg in 1807, and reprinted at Philadelphia in 1812. Aside from the official reports, we are indebted to Patrick Gass, the last survivor of the expedition, for nearly all the knowledge we have concerning it.

6. *Blennerhassett's Island.*—Situated in the Ohio river, two miles below the mouth of the Little Kanawha river, is the beautiful isle, known the world over as Blennerhassett's Island, for the world knows the story connected with it. Harman Blennerhassett was born of Irish parentage in Hampshire, England, in 1767, and was educated for the law. He inherited a valuable estate in Ireland of which he disposed by sale, and having resolved to come to America, he went to England to prepare for the voyage. While in that country he became acquainted with Miss Agnew, a daughter of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Isle of Man, and a granddaughter of the celebrated general of that name, who fell in the battle of Germantown. She was young, intelligent and beautiful. She listened with delight to the stories of that far-off land in the Western World. There was a marriage, and Harman Blennerhassett and his bride crossed the ocean and landed in New York City in 1797. In the autumn of the same year they crossed the mountains and reached Pittsburg.

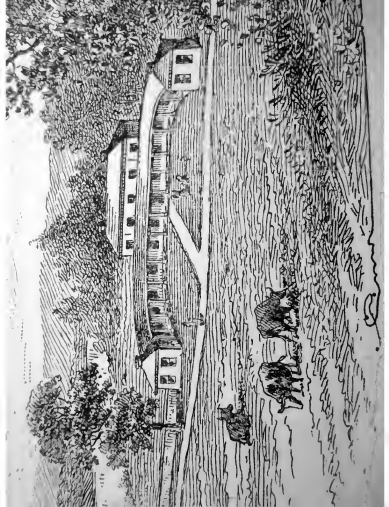
7. *Seeking a Home.*—At Pittsburg they obtained passage on a keel-boat, which was at that day the

most comfortable mode of traveling on the western waters, and in the course of time arrived at Marietta, at the mouth of the Muskingum river. Here the winter was spent in social intercourse, and in 1798 Blennerhassett purchased the island which has ever since borne his name, and the same year moved into a block-house on the upper end of it. Here he



THE BLENNERHASSETT MANSION.

reared a palace, which was an ideal, an image of which had haunted his youthful fancy as a picture of sylvan beauty, of peaceful solitude, of calm repose. It was a mansion of which a king might have been proud. The halls were light, airy, and elegant, with gay-colored carpets, splendid mirrors, classic pictures, rich tapestry, with ornaments correspondingly elaborate, arranged with harmonious effect in accordance with the artistic taste of the mistress of the mansion.



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8. Aaron Burr Visits the Island Home.—Aaron Burr, the slayer of Alexander Hamilton and late Vice-President of the United States, set out on a journey through the Western States, the object being ostensibly to purchase lands in the Louisiana Territory, but really to make arrangements for a private expedition against Mexico and the Spanish provinces, in the event of a war between the United States and Spain, which at that time seemed inevitable. Descending the Ohio, he called at the mansion which adorned the willow-fringed island, and from the moment that he set foot upon it that home was doomed. Blennerhassett was a shining treasure, just such as Burr was seeking. He listened to the recital of the wild and visionary scheme, and then embarked in it.

9. The Country in Which Burr Expected to Establish a Southwest Empire.—Beyond the Mississippi lay the vast region known as Louisiana, which the United States had but recently purchased from France. It was a region extending from the Gulf of Mexico to Canada, and from the Mississippi to the Rocky mountains. Away to the southwest of Louisiana lay Mexico, of which Texas was then a part, a country whose national existence and traditions ante-date the discovery of America more than a thousand years. Its shores were first seen by white men in 1517, when Francisco Fernandez de Cordova, while cruising in the Spanish Main, landed on the

coast of Yucatan. It was Louisiana and Mexico in which Burr hoped to appear as liberator, then as ruler or sovereign of an empire reared within the limits of these countries.

10. The Expedition and Its Results.—In the autumn of 1806, active preparations began for the contemplated expedition. Blennerhassett had embarked his fame and fortune in the enterprise of Burr. Boats were constructed and freighted with supplies and munitions of war, and December 10th, 1806, under cover of darkness, the flotilla left the island and began the descent of the Ohio. The next morning a body of Virginia troops, under the command of Captain Hugh Phelps, occupied the island, taking military possession, and Mrs. Blennerhassett and her children left the island never to return. The mansion was greatly damaged, and was destroyed by fire in 1812. Burr and Blennerhassett were both arrested and taken to Richmond, where they were confined in the State prison. Burr was tried on a charge of treason and acquitted. Blennerhassett was released without trial. The family was ruined. Blennerhassett died on the Island of Guernsey in 1831, and the wife some years later in New York City.

11. The Journal of Judge Lewis Summers.—Lewis Summers, afterwards a distinguished jurist of Virginia, made an extended journey through what is now West Virginia in 1808. On June 30th of that year he left the home of his father near Alexandria, Virginia, and on horseback crossed the mountains to the westward. Passing through the Greenbrier

region he journeyed down the Great Kanawha Valley and thence up the Ohio river to Wheeling, from which place he returned to his home on the Potomac. He kept a journal of all that he saw and heard, which has been published. It is one of the best descriptions of what our State was at that time that has come down to us. It was published with copious notes in the Southern Historical Magazine, in 1892.



LEWIS SUMMERS.*

12. Parkersburg Made a Town.—In the year 1773, Robert Thornton, of Pennsylvania, obtained a settlement title to 400 acres of land, including that on which the town of Parkersburg now stands, and in 1783 it was confirmed to him by the Virginia Commissioner of Lands. In December, 1783, James Neale, assisted by Samuel Hannaway, surveyor of Monongalia county, surveyed two tracts of land for Alexander Parker, of Pennsylvania, assignee of

*Judge Lewis Summers was born in Fairfax county, Virginia, November 7th, 1778. He was one of the most eminent men that the State produced, when the two Virginias were one. In 1803 he removed to Gallipolis, Ohio, where two years later he was elected to the State Senate. In 1814 he made Kanawha county, now in West Virginia, his home. There later, he was elected a member of the General Assembly of Virginia, and re-elected the ensuing year. In 1819, he was chosen Judge of the General Court of Virginia, and of the Kanawha Judicial Circuit. He was a member of the Board of Public Works for many years, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1829-30. He died at White Sulphur Springs, August 27th, 1843, having served for more than a quarter of a century as a Judge of the General Court of Virginia.

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Robert Thornton. And July 3d, 1787, his title was confirmed by the State. Parker died about the year 1800 and the lands descended to his daughter Mary, who wedded William Robinson, of Pennsylvania. The title to the lands was disputed and the suit resulting therefrom continued until 1809, when the Parker heirs gained possession of the land, and December 11th, 1810, the town was laid out and named Parkersburg in honor of Alexander Parker.

13. Wheeling in 1810.—A traveler who saw Wheeling in 1810, thus describes it: "Wheeling has but one street which is thickly built on for a quarter of a mile in length. The town has about 115 dwellings, 11 stores, 2 potteries of stoneware, and a market-house. And it had in 1808-9, a printing-office, a book store and library; the first two quit the town for want of public patronage; the last is still upheld by the citizens. The mail stage from Philadelphia to Baltimore arrives here twice a week by way of Pittsburg and Wellsburg and thence westward; the mail is dispatched once a week on horses. The thoroughfare through Wheeling of emigrants and travelers, into the State of Ohio, and down the river, is very great in the spring and fall. Since the completion of the great turnpike, business and the carrying trade is very lively in and through Wheeling." Such was the chief city of West Virginia nearly a century ago.

14. Steam Navigation on the Ohio River.—Robert Fulton took up the steamboat where James Rumsey, the West Virginia inventor, left it. Genius, aided by the money of Chancellor Livingston, gave to the world

the steamboat. August 7th, 1807, the "Claremont" left the wharf at New York and plowed its way up the Hudson bound for Albany. This boat was altered and called the "North River." The same year Fulton began the building of the "Raritan," designed for the river of that name, and of the "Car of Neptune," for the Hudson.

15. Was the Ohio River Navigable for Steamboats?—The fourth steamboat was to be navigated on distant waters. Beyond the Alleghanies the Ohio river flowed away to the southwest through what has since become one of the most productive regions of the globe. Whether that river was navigable for steamboats was not known, but Fulton and Livingston determined to ascertain. Nicholas J. Roosevelt was one among the most eminent civil engineers of his time and he was sent to explore the river. He, with his wife, reached Pittsburg in May, 1809. A little flat-boat was secured and supplies for the journey provided, and the two went on board and began the descent of the river. It was mid-summer and at every angle or curve of the stream an ever-changing panorama of river, hill, plain and forest was presented to view. Six months passed away and the little boat lay at the levy at New Orleans, and those on board went to New York by ocean conveyance.

X16. The Building of the Steamer "New Orleans."
—Roosevelt's report demonstrated the feasibility of steam navigation on the Ohio, and in the spring of the year 1810 the great engineer was sent to Pittsburg to superintend the building of the first steamboat

on the western waters. Within the present corporate limits of Allegheny City, Roosevelt laid the keel of his boat. The hull was 110 feet long and 24 feet wide. After nearly two years' labor the boat was completed at a cost of \$38,000. She was launched and named the "New Orleans." The pilot steered her up the Monongahela and back and up the Allegheny. It was her trial trip and it was most satisfactory. All things were prepared for the voyage down the Ohio. Roosevelt and his wife were the only passengers aboard. There was a crew consisting of a captain, and engineer, two pilots, six hands.

On September 27th, 1811, the day of the steamer's departure, there was great excitement at Pittsburg. Almost the entire population thronged the banks of the Monongahela. There was heard many a God-



STEAMER "NEW ORLEANS."

speed from the people as the boat disappeared behind the first headlands. Onward sped the steamer at the rate of ten miles an hour. Short stops were made at Cincinnati and Louisville and passengers and freight were

taken on board at Natchez for New Orleans. It was the experimental voyage and the beginning of the greatest inland commerce of the world. From 1811 to 1818, fifteen steamers were built on the Ohio, and by the year 1820, forty had been built on western waters, seven of which had been wrecked and thirty-three were in service.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE WAR OF 1812; NEWSPAPERS.

From 1811 to 1825.

1. **West Virginia in the War of 1812.**—When the second war with Great Britain was declared, Virginia called upon her sons to defend her soil from the foot of the invader, and nowhere did that call meet with a more ready response than amid the hills and valleys of West Virginia where dwelt the sons of the Minute Men of the Revolution. There lived the descendants of the men who had seen service in the War for Independence and had withstood the storm of savage warfare for many years. From the summit of the Alleghanies to the banks of the Ohio, men mounted their horses, strapped on their knapsacks and turned their faces from home.

2. **Their Gathering at the City on the James.**—There was no distinction of the rich and the poor. Gentlemen who had occupied conspicuous places in the halls of legislation, the plowman fresh from the fallowed field, officers, soldiers, citizens, all went with one accord. Within a fortnight after the call to arms, fifteen thousand men were encamped within sight of Richmond, among them the largest body of cavalry—horsemen from the west side of the Blue Ridge—that, up to that time, had ever been reviewed on the Continent. There were too many and in one morning, one

thousand of them were discharged and sent home. On their way over the Blue Ridge they met whole



GEN. P. H. STEENBERGEN.*

companies, some from the banks of the Ohio, still marching to the East. Commanding one of these companies was Captain Peter H. Steenbergen. Nearly a regiment of West Virginians marched to the West and served with General Harrison on the Maumee. Dr. Jesse Bennett, the first regularly educated physician in Mason county, was the surgeon of the regiment. Major Andrew Waggener, of Berkeley county, was the Hero of Lundy's Lane, and the first men to double-quick up Pennsylvania avenue, after the British General Ross had fired the National Capitol, was a battalion of minute men from the Virginia mountains.

3. Direct Tax Paid by the Counties of West Virginia.—The collection of a Direct Tax by the General Government is only resorted to in cases of great emergency. The second Section of Article I, of the Federal Constitution, declares that "direct taxes shall be ap-

*General Peter H. Steenbergen was born July 12th, 1788, near Moorefield, in Hardy county. He was educated at Washington Hall, now Washington and Lee University, Virginia, and settled on the Ohio river in Mason county, now West Virginia, in 1811. When the second war with England came, he entered the army as captain of a cavalry company mustered in Mason county. He rose to the rank of colonel in the Virginia military establishment, and then to that of Brigadier-General, which he held for many years. He died July 31st, 1863.

portioned among the several states which may be included within this Union according to numbers." The first time that Congress availed itself of this constitutional



DR. JESSE BENNETT.*

provision was to aid in the prosecution of the second war with England, when, on August 2d, 1813, an act was passed requiring the collection of \$3,000,000.00. There were then eighteen States, and the amount apportioned to Virginia, was \$369,018.44. Of the counties now embraced in West Virginia, sixteen then had an

existence, and each paid as follows: Monroe county, \$1,030.50; Greenbrier, \$1,650.44; Kanawha, \$2,167.50; Cabell, \$1,546.50; Mason, \$1,130.50; Randolph, \$5,465.50; Harrison, \$2,672.50; Wood, \$1,338.50; Monongalia, \$2,992.50; Ohio, \$1,907.50; Brooke, \$1,195.50; Pendleton, \$1,428.50; Hardy, \$2,126.50;

*Dr. Jesse Bennett was born near Philadelphia, July 10th, 1769. After completing his medical studies, he removed West and settled on the Ohio river, six miles above the mouth of the Great Kanawha. Upon the organization of Mason county, in 1804, he was made Colonel Commandant, and as such was the custodian of the military stores belonging to the county. The same year he was visited by Harman Blennerhassett, who tried to induce him to join in the wild and visionary scheme in which he and Burr were then engaged. Bennett refused, but, fearing that the guns in his possession might be taken by force, he had them buried on Six-Mile inland until the danger was past. Dr. Bennett represented Mason county in the Virginia Assembly of 1808-9, and was surgeon of Colonel Dudley Evans' 2d Virginia Regiment, in the War of 1812. He died July 18th, 1842.

Hampshire, \$3,795.50; Berkeley, \$6,147.22; Jefferson, \$6,876.28—a total of \$43,469.94, which the pioneer settlers paid to assist in securing the rights of Americans upon the high seas.

X **4. First Newspapers in West Virginia.**—The first newspaper published within the present limits of West Virginia was the *Martinsburg Gazette*, established in 1799 by Nathaniel Willis, father of the distinguished poet, Nathaniel Parker Willis. The second newspaper published in the State was the *Berkeley and Jefferson County Intelligencer and Northern Neck Advertiser*, which first appeared in the year 1800, John Alburdis being the publisher. The first newspaper printed in Wheeling was the *Repository*, which made its appearance in 1807. Following closely after it were the *Times*, *Gazette*, *Telegraph* and *Virginian*. In 1808, *The Farmer's Repository*, published at Charlestown, Jefferson county, made its appearance. The first newspaper published at Charleston, the present Capital of the State, was the *Kanawha Patriot*, published by Herbert P. Gaines in 1819.

X **5. The Founding of Lewisburg Academy.**—This was the most important school in the early history of the State. Its founder was Reverend John McElhenney, who was one worthy of the institution and the institution was one worthy of such a founder. He came as a minister to Greenbrier county in 1808, and the same year he opened a classical school which he continued and which four years later, developed into the Lewisburg Academy, which was incorporated by Act

of the Assembly in 1812. Dr. McElhenney continued as president of the school until 1824, and was president of the Board of Trustees from 1812, to 1860—a period of forty-eight years. From its walls went forth legislators, great debaters and scientists, to become active characters in establishing western commonwealths.



REV. JOHN M'ELHENNEY.*

6. Establishment of the Linsly Institute.—The establishment of this institution at Wheeling dates back to the year 1814. Its founder was Noah Linsly, who was born in Bradford, Connecticut, in 1772. He was a graduate of Yale College and in 1798, came to Morgantown, then in Virginia, where he spent two years and then removed to Wheeling, where he died of hemorrhage of the lungs in 1814. In his will he made provision for the establishment of a school, to be free to such white children as the trustees might deem worthy. Samuel Sprigg and Noah Zane were named as executors of the will and they hastened to apply to the Virginia Assembly for a charter for the school. This was granted and the school put in operation. It still continues its usefulness.

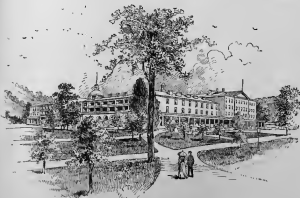
* Reverend John McElhenney was born in South Carolina in 1781, and was educated at Liberty Hall Academy, now Washington and Lee University, Virginia. Entering the ministry, he came to Lewisburg and began a pastorate which continued more than sixty years. In 1808, he founded the Lewisburg Academy. He died January 2d, 1871, in the ninety-first year of his age.

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7. **The National Road.**—Virginia led in the work of constructing roads over the Alleghany mountains, and in the year 1802, the State began the construction of a road from the mouth of George's Creek to the nearest western navigation. But before its completion the National Government began the construction of the most important highway ever made on the Continent. It began at Cumberland, Maryland, in 1808, and the last appropriation was made in 1844, to complete the survey of the route to Jefferson City, Missouri. The total cost of this great thoroughfare was \$6,824,919.33.

8. **Completion of the Road to Wheeling.**—Ten years passed away after work begun at Cumberland, before the road was opened to Wheeling. The road when opened to the Ohio River at once became a great commercial, military and national highway. In a speech delivered in Congress in 1832, it was stated that: "In the year 1822 a single house in the town of Wheeling unloaded 1,081 wagons averaging about 3,500 pounds each and paid for the carriage of the goods \$90,000. At that time there were five other commission houses in the same place, and estimating that each of these received two-thirds the amount of goods consigned to the first, there must have been nearly five thousand wagons unloaded and nearly \$400,000 paid as cost for transportation." There were no railroads at that time and the National Pike was for years the only thoroughfare connecting the East with the West. It was the most important road ever built by the National Government.

9. Road Making early in the Century.—In the first decade of the present century many roads were constructed in the territory now embraced in the State. Among these were the following: from Morgantown to the mouth of Grave Creek—now Moundsville; from Dunlap's Creek on James River to Morris,—now Brownstown on the Great Kanawha; from the mouth of Elk river—now Charleston—down that stream to the Ohio river—now Point Pleasant; from Lewisburg in Greenbrier county to the Falls of the Great Kanawha. Thus were the highways of civilized men rapidly extended through the wilderness.

- X 10. The Greenbrier White Sulphur Springs.—This is the most celebrated summer resort in the South-



SCENE AT WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS.

ern States. The land on which it is situated was patented by Nathaniel Carpenter, who reared his cabin near the Spring and removed his family to it in 1774.

Soon after the Indians murdered all the family, except Kate, the mother, and an infant with which she escaped to a high mountain where she lay concealed until the Indians were gone and then made her way to Staunton to tell of the sad fate of her family. "Kate's Mountain" will ever be an object of interest to those who visit White Sulphur Springs. William Hern-



THE WHITE SULPHUR SPRING.

don was the first to make it a place of resort, but in 1818, James Caldwell became the owner of the property and with that year begins the history of the Springs as a national resort. Both Nature and Art have done much to render it an enchanted spot. The fountain is crowned with a stately Doric dome, supported by twelve large pillars, the whole surmounted by a colossal statue of Hygeia looking toward the rising sun.

11. Steam Navigation on the Great Kanawha.—In the year 1819—the same in which the first steamship crossed the Atlantic Ocean—a steamboat called the "Robert Thompson" ascended the Great Kanawha for the purpose of ascertaining whether it was navigable to Charleston. The voyage continued as far as Red House Shoals, where two days were spent in a vain effort to pass the rapids, and the boat returned to the Ohio; the officers reported to the Virginia Assembly the result of the experimental voyage, and that

body in 1820, made the first appropriation for the improvement of the river.

X 12. **Towns Established in West Virginia From 1800 to 1825.**—The Assembly increased the number of towns west of the mountains as rapidly as the increasing population demanded. Elizabethtown, laid out by Joseph Tomlinson at the mouth of Grave Creek in 1803, was named for his wife; Guyandotte in Cabell county, and Middlebourne in Tyler county were both laid out in 1810; Kingwood in Preston county was made a town in 1811, and became the county seat in 1818; Barboursville in Cabell county, was established in 1813; Bridgeport, at Simpson's Creek bridge, in Harrison county, and Buckhannon now in Upshur county, became towns in 1816; Weston, in Lewis county, was established under the name of Preston in 1818, but the name was changed to Flandersville and finally to Weston in 1819; Summersville in Nicholas county, and Fairmont, then called Middletown, now in Marion county, were made towns in 1820; Huntersville Pocahontas county, began its legal existence in 1821, and Harrisville, then in Wood, but now in Ritchie county, was established a town in 1822.

13. **Doddridge's History of the Indian Wars.**—In 1824, Rev. Joseph Doddridge* published a book at

*Rev. Joseph Doddridge, author and minister, was born October 14th, 1799, in Friend's Cove, Bedford county, Pennsylvania, and when but four years of age removed with his parents to a cabin home near the Western Pennsylvania line; and from there, later in life, to Brooke county, Virginia. He was sent to school in Maryland, where he received an excellent English education,

Wellsburg, entitled "Notes on the Settlement and Indian Wars of the Western Parts of Virginia and Pennsylvania from 1763 to 1783, Inclusive." It was the first work published which gave a view of the state of society, manners and customs of the first settlers of the Western country. It has been widely read, and it must form the basis of the intelligent study of Western annals, for without a knowledge of the character of the people who made pioneer history, it will be impossible to understand it properly, and without this correct understanding, an attempt to study our National History will result largely in failure.

and later was a student in Jefferson Academy at Cannonsburg, Pennsylvania. Entering the ministry, he became pastor of three churches in what is now West Virginia, viz.: one at West Liberty, Ohio county, and St. John's and St. Paul's in Brooke county. Dr. Doddridge died at Wellsburg, Brooke county, November 9th, 1826. He was one of the most scholarly men whose name appears in the early history of West Virginia.

CHAPTER XIV.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES AND OTHER EVENTS.

From 1825 to 1842.

1. **The First Constitution of Virginia.**—In the year 1776 Virginia framed and adopted a Constitution by which the people were governed for more than fifty years. It was the first document of the kind framed by an American State, and, prepared without a precedent, it was but natural that in it there should be some imperfections. Among these, the most important were the unequal representation of the counties and the limitation of suffrage to freeholders. The latter was imposed upon the colony in 1677 by royal instruction from King Charles II. to the Governor of Virginia "to take care that the members of the Assembly be elected only by freeholders, as being more agreeable to the customs of England," to which he might have added, "and more agreeable to monarchical institutions."

2. **Dissatisfaction in What is Now West Virginia.**—The increase of population and the organization of counties west of the Blue Ridge, by the year 1825, made the unequal representation of the several counties of the State more apparent; for, while each of a number of these western counties paid into the State treasury many times more than some

of the eastern counties, yet the representation of each on the floor of the General Assembly was the same. It was asserted that it was taxation without representation, and great dissatisfaction was developed among the men who were felling the forests on the western slope of the Alleghanies and in the valleys toward the Ohio.

3. A Constitutional Convention.—There was a popular demand for a Constitutional Convention, and the Assembly, in 1827-8, passed an act providing that a vote should be taken upon the question. This resulted in a large majority in favor of the Convention, and that body assembled in Richmond October 5th, 1829. It was the most remarkable body of men that had assembled in Virginia since that which ratified the Federal Constitution in 1788. There sat James Madison and James Monroe, ex-Presidents of the United States; John Randolph



JUDGE EDWIN S. DUNCAN.*

*Judge Edwin S. Duncan, the member from Harrison county, was born in Shenandoah county, Virginia, in the year 1790. He came to Randolph county in 1810, and was soon after elected to the House of Delegates. He served as chief staff officer in Colonel Booth's Virginia Regiment during the second war with Great Britain. In 1816 he removed to Harrison county. He was prosecuting attorney of Lewis county in 1816, a member of the State Senate in 1820; appointed United States District Attorney for the Western District of Virginia in 1824; was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1829-30; was elected a Judge of the General Court of Virginia and of the

of Roanoke, and many others renowned for their wisdom and eloquence. The body was composed of ninety-six members.* At length the work of the Convention was done, but it did not meet the expectations of the people west of the mountains, who had hoped to secure an extension of the right of suffrage and a more equable basis of representation.

X 4. **Chronicles of Border Warfare.**—One of the most valuable works relating to the history of West Virginia was that known as "Chronicles of Border Warfare," written by Alexander Withers and published by Joseph Israel at Clarksburg in 1831. The work has been very scarce for years, but has been reprinted recently. It contains a vast fund of information pertaining to the Indian wars in West Virginia, and of the trials, privations, and hardships to which our pioneer settlers were subjected.

5. **The History of the Valley.**—In 1833 there was printed at Winchester, Virginia, a work having the

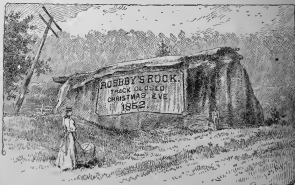
Eighteenth Circuit in 1831; was appointed by the Governor to represent Virginia at the World's Fair in London, England, in 1851; and after his return from this service he retired to private life. He died February 4th, 1858.

*Of the whole number of members, eighteen were from the territory now embraced within the limits of West Virginia. These were: William McCoy, of Pendleton county; Andrew Beirne, of Monroe; William Smith, of Greenbrier; John Baxter, of Pocahontas; Thomas Griggs, Jr., and Hierome L. Opie, of Jefferson; William Naylor and William Donaldson, of Hampshire; Elisha Boyd and Philip Pendleton, of Berkeley; Edwin S. Duncan, of Harrison; John Laidley, of Cabell; Lewis Summers, of Kanawha; Adam See, of Randolph; Philip Doddridge and Alexander Campbell, of Brooke, and Charles S. Morgan and Eugenius M. Wilson, of Monongalia.

title of the "History of the Valley," by Samuel Kercheval, and to it we are indebted for much of our knowledge of the early history of the Eastern Panhandle and of the South Branch Valley. The work is now very rare, although it was reprinted in 1851 at Woodstock, in the Shenandoah Valley. Historians place a very high value on it.

X 6. **The First Railroad in West Virginia.**—The first stone laid in the construction of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad was put in place on July 4th, 1828, by Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, then the only survivor of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. From that time onward the work was prosecuted vigorously, until, on the first day of December, 1834, the road was opened to Harper's Ferry, eighty-one miles distant from Baltimore.

7. **Over the Mountains to the Ohio River.**—On November 5th, 1842, the whistle of the locomotive



ROSBY'S ROCK, SEVEN MILES EAST OF MOUNDSVILLE.

ROSBY'S ROCK.
TRACK CLOSED
CHRISTMAS EVE,
1852.



was heard for the first time at Western Maryland. Then work began on both sides of the mountains. The construction of the road was at that time the greatest triumph of engineering skill that had been witnessed in this or any other country. December 24th, 1852, the last spike was driven, and on the evening of January 1st, 1853, the President of the road with his guests from the city of Baltimore and the States of Maryland and Virginia, stood on the banks of the Ohio river at Wheeling, having been carried thither by the first through train from the Atlantic ocean to the Ohio river. The construction of the road from Grafton to the Ohio at Parkersburg was commenced late in December, 1852, and opened to Parkersburg May 1st, 1857. Such were the first railroads constructed in West Virginia.

8. The Maryland - Virginia Boundary.—Some years after the planting of the Fairfax Stone, Maryland claimed that it should have been located at the first fountain of the South Branch of the Potomac, instead of at that at the North Branch, and as early as 1753, Horatio Sharpe, governor of that Colony, sent Thomas Cresap, the most prominent man in Western Maryland, to make a map of the region drained by the upper branches of the Potomac.

9. Virginia Prepares to Make a Defense.—Through all the years from 1753 to 1830, Maryland continued to urge that the southwest corner of that State should be at the first fountain of the South Branch, and, in the last-named year, Governor Floyd of Virginia appointed Charles J. Faulkner, Sr., of

Martinsburg, to embody testimony on the part of Virginia. This he did, and his report, completed in 1832, stayed for a time the controversy which, however, has been revived recently.

10. Construction of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal.

—This canal, though no part of it was in West Virginia, yet exerted a great influence upon the trade of the eastern part of the State. May 29th, 1828, Congress appropriated \$1,000,000 towards the construction of the canal. Hundreds of laborers were employed for a number of years, and the great waterway from the mountains at Cumberland, to Alexandria, below Washington City, was formally opened for traffic, October 10th, 1850.

11. Rioting on the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal.—

In 1838, the laborers on the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal quit work and in a body nearly a thousand strong, marched from Hancock and intermediate points toward Old Town, on the borders of Hampshire and Morgan counties, terrorizing the inhabitants. They crossed into what is now West Virginia, and A. W. McDonald, David Gibson and twenty-five other inhabitants of Hampshire county, addressed a communication from Romney to the governor asking for arms for the defense of the people of that county and of the adjoining county of Morgan. Gov. David Campbell hastened to comply and, January 6th, 1838, ordered 200 stand of arms to be sent to Hampshire for the use of the 77th Regiment, and 100 stand to be sent to Morgan for the use of the 89th Regiment. This was the first riot of any character within the limits of West Virginia.

12. **The First Steamboats on the Little Kanawha River.**—The first steamboat on the Little Kanawha river, that reached the town of Elizabeth, was the "Sciota Belle" in the year 1842. This boat was built at Parkersburg and only made one voyage on the Little Kanawha when it was taken to the Muskingum river for the trade for which it had been built. The second steamer to reach Elizabeth was the "Lodi" in 1847.

CHAPTER XV.

JURISDICTION OVER THE OHIO: CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION: INSURRECTION AT HARPER'S FERRY.

From 1842 to 1860.

X 1. **Founding of Bethany College.**—Bethany College at Bethany in Brooke county, was founded in 1841, in which year the first building was erected. The founder was Alexander Campbell, who regarded



ALEXANDER CAMPBELL.

the establishment of the college as the consummation of all his earthly projects. The village of Bethany was chosen as the location of the institution because it was believed that no healthier soil, purer air or lovelier scenery could be found in the United States. The college continued to prosper and the roll of graduates contains the names of men of pre-eminent ability and scholarship—men who are performing a faithful part in the world's work.

* Alexander Campbell, the founder of Bethany College, was born in County Antrim, Ireland, September 12th, 1786, and came to the United States in October, 1809. A noted theologian, his labors were devoted to the restoration of primitive Christianity. In 1818, he opened in his own house a school for both sexes—known

2. **Little Levels Academy.**—This institution was established in Pocahontas county, in 1842, under a charter granted by the State of Virginia. The first principal was Reverend Joseph Brown, who served in that capacity for seven years. He was succeeded by Reverend M. D. Dunlap, who remained at the head of the institution for eleven years, or until the war began and the school closed. In 1865, the county purchased the building, since which time it has been used for public school purposes. This was the first school of high order in the county and notwithstanding the short period of its existence, it left its impression on the educational interests of this section of the State.

3. **A Valuable Historical Work.**—In 1845, Henry Howe published his "Historical Collections of Virginia." It was printed at Charleston, South Carolina, and was the most valuable work ever issued treating of the history of Virginia. Its author was born in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1816, and coming to Virginia, he traversed almost the entire State, visiting nearly every county then existing and now embraced in West Virginia. He collected a vast amount of valuable matter, much of which would have perished had he not rescued it at the time of

as Buffalo Academy. In 1830, he, with Philip Doddridge, represented Brooke county in the Constitutional Convention of Virginia, and ten years later he saw the fulfillment of a long cherished hope—the founding of Bethany College. His life was filled with arduous and varied labors. He taught, traveled and preached at home and abroad, and wrote early and late. He died in 1866, aged eighty years.

his tour over the State. The author died at Columbus, Ohio, in 1893.

4. West Virginians in the Mexican War.—When the war with Mexico came in 1846, Virginia was ready, and under the "Ten Regiment Act" of Congress a company was enlisted in the counties bordering on the Ohio, which rendezvoused at Guyandotte in Cabell county, whence it proceeded to Newport Barracks where it was mustered into service and attached to the Eleventh United States Infantry, Colonel Ramsey, commanding. Proceeding to New Orleans, the company landed with General Scott at Vera Cruz and marched to the City of Mexico.

5. United States Senator, Isaac Pennybacker, dies at Washington.—Jan-



ISAAC PENNYBACKER.

uary 12th, 1847, Isaac Pennybacker, member of the United States Senate, died at Washington. He was born in Shenandoah county, Virginia, September 3d, 1805, and having studied law, he came to Franklin, the county-seat of Pendleton, now in West Virginia, where he practiced his

profession. In 1840, President Van Buren appointed him judge of the United States Court for the district west of the Alleghany mountains in the State of Virginia, he having previously removed to Harrisonburg in the Shenandoah Valley. December 3d, 1845, he received his certificate of election by the Assembly of

Virginia, to a seat in the United States Senate, which position he was serving at the time of his death.

6. The Founding of Mount De Chantal Female College.—This institution was founded in 1848, by Rev. Richard Vincent Whelan. The present site of the institution was selected in 1865, and under the direction of the founder the buildings were erected, they having been designed by Bartberger, an architect of Pittsburg. They stand on an eminence, distant two miles from Wheeling, from which is presented a view of the valley of Wheeling creek, which is skirted on all sides by lofty hills.



REV. R. V. WHELAN.*

7. West Virginia's Claim to the Jurisdiction of the Ohio River.—In 1784, Virginia ceded to the General Government all the title and claim which the State possessed to the territory northwest of the Ohio river, but this did not include the river named. For many years after the admission of Ohio into the Union in 1803, the jurisdiction over that river was a matter of dispute, and varied were the opinions of eminent lawyers concerning it.

* Rev. Richard Vincent Whelan was born in Baltimore, Maryland, in the year 1809; attended college at Emmetsburg, in the same State, and afterward studied in the schools of philosophy and theology, in Paris, France. Entered the ministry at Martinsburg—now West Virginia—and became Bishop of Richmond, in 1841, and of Wheeling in 1850. He was active in every work of education, and Mount De Chantal College is a monument to his memory. He died at Wheeling July 7th, 1874.

8. **Appointment of Commissioners.**—In order that an equitable and satisfactory solution of the vexed question might be reached, the two States of Ohio and Virginia, in 1847 appointed a Commission consisting of three members from each, the duty of which was "to settle all questions of boundary between the two States." Those appointed by Ohio were Thomas Ewing, John Brough and James Collier; those named by Virginia were William C. Rives, William Greene and George W. Thompson.

9. **Meeting of the Commissioners.**—These gentlemen met in the City of Washington in the early part of January, 1848, and adjourned on the 26th of the same month without having agreed upon terms of adjustment. West Virginia now stands in the place of Virginia as to all questions depending upon the validity of Virginia's titles, and involving the jurisdiction of more than two hundred miles of the course of the Ohio river.



GEORGE W. THOMPSON.*

George W. Thompson, the last-named commissioner

*George W. Thompson was born in Ohio county, now in West Virginia, May 14th, 1806, and was educated at Jefferson College, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, from which institution he was graduated in 1824. He studied law at St. Clairsville, Ohio. In 1837 he became a resident of Wheeling, of which city he was appointed postmaster in 1838. In 1844, President Polk appointed him United States District Attorney for the Western District of Virginia, which position he filled for four years. In 1851 he was chosen to Congress from the Wheeling District and while occupy-

on the part of Virginia, made a thorough examination of the subject and the result of his researches has been published.

10. **Buffalo Academy.**—Buffalo Academy was established by a joint stock company in 1849, at Buffalo, Putnam county, the oldest town on the Great Kanawha river between Charleston and Point Pleasant. The first principal was George Rosetter, A.M., afterwards of Marietta College, Ohio. It continued to be a flourishing institution until after the beginning of the Civil War, when it was occupied alternately as a barracks by the soldiers of the Federal and Confederate armies, and during that time all the furniture and apparatus were destroyed. After the war the property was deeded to the Board of Education of Buffalo district for public school purposes.

11. **The Center of Population.**—For five decades the Center of Population of the United States was in West Virginia. In 1810 it was at Harper's Ferry, in Jefferson county; in 1820 it was near Wardensville, in Hardy county; in 1830 it had moved westward and rested on Canaan Mountain, in Tucker county; in 1840 it had moved still farther west and was situated in Harrison county, about ten miles nearly due south from Clarksburg; in 1850 it had again changed its position and was located on the south bank of the Little Kanawha river in Wood county; but when an-

ing a seat in that body, he was elected Judge of the Circuit Court. In 1861 he retired to private life and devoted himself to literary pursuits. Among his published works are "The Living Forces," and "The Administration of Good and Evil." He died at his home near Wheeling, February 24th, 1888.

other decade had passed away, this point had moved beyond the western limit of our State, and was situated about twenty miles north of Portsmouth, Ohio.

12. The Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1850.—The dissatisfaction of the people with the provisions of the Constitution which had been framed in 1829-30, continued to increase, especially in the counties then existing and now comprised within West Virginia. In compliance with the popular demand, the General Assembly, on the 9th of March, 1850, passed an act providing for submitting to the people the question of calling a Convention to revise the Constitution. The vote in the following April resulted in favor of the Convention and the election of delegates took place in August ensuing.

13. The Work of the Convention.—The Convention assembled on the 14th of October, 1850. The counties west of the mountains sent their best men to occupy seats in that august body, which contained some of the best minds of Virginia. After an extended session the work was done and it brought a redress of many grievances. The Right of Suffrage was extended, taxation was rendered more equitable, and the basis of representation was so re-



JOSEPH JOHNSON *

*Joseph Johnson, the only man ever chosen to fill the gubernatorial chair of Virginia from the west side of the Alleghany

modeled as to secure to the western part of the State more nearly equal representation in the halls of legislation, and it now seemed that harmony would henceforth exist between the eastern and western parts of the State. The office of Governor, which had been previously elective by the Assembly, was now made elective by the people and at the first State election after the adoption of the Constitution, Joseph Johnson, of Harrison county, was elected Governor. He was the only person ever chosen from that part of the State west of the mountains to fill that high office in Virginia.

14. Navigation on the Monongahela River.—The Virginia Assembly, in 1793, passed an act for the clearing and extending of navigation on the Monongahela and West Fork rivers. Before the year 1820, several steamers had ascended the Monongahela some distance but the first to reach Morgantown was the

Mountains, was born December 10th, 1785, in Orange county, New York. The father died when Joseph was but five years of age and in 1801, the mother, with her fatherless children, came to Bridgeport, Harrison county, now in West Virginia, where Joseph engaged in farm labor. He was a student, availing himself of every opportunity for self-improvement; he read every book that came into his hands, and attended the rude schools of that day. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and was elected a member of the Assembly in 1815. In 1823 he was chosen a member of Congress, and re-elected for different terms between that date and 1850. In that year he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention and while serving therein was elected Governor by the General Assembly. The new Constitution made the office of Governor elective by the people and he was by them elected to that office in 1852. He died at his home at Bridgeport, February 27th, 1877, in the ninety-second year of his age.

"Reindeer," on Sunday, April 29th, 1826. The first steamboat that reached Fairmont was the "Globe," on the 11th day of February, 1850, and its appearance at the place created great excitement among the people. In 1852 the steamer, "Thomas P. Ray," made frequent trips on the river but navigation was not firmly established until the Federal Government completed the system of locks and dams which now insures navigation throughout the year as far up as Morgantown.

X 15. **Two Valuable Books Added to Pioneer Literature.**—In the year 1851, Wills de Hass published at Wheeling, a book of several hundred pages entitled "History of the Early Settlements and Indian Wars of Western Virginia, Previous to 1795." This book contained several valuable documents pertaining to the French occupancy of the Ohio Valley. In addition to the historical text, there were a number of biographical sketches of distinguished frontiersmen. In 1859 J. G. Jacob published at Wellsburg, the "Life and Times of Patrick Gass," to which he added much valuable matter concerning the early history of West Virginia.

/ 16. **Insurrection at Harper's Ferry.**—The intelligence that went out from Harper's Ferry on October 17th, 1859, sent a thrill of terror through Virginia and astounded the whole Nation. A few months previous to this, John Brown and his two sons, Oliver and Watson, having assumed the name of Anderson, leased a farm in Maryland a few miles from Harper's Ferry, the site of the United States Armory. Arms

and a number of twenty-two associates—seventeen white and colored—was collected.

17. The Attack upon the Town.—At ten o'clock on the evening of October 16th, 1859, William Williamson, a guard on the bridge spanning the Potomac river at Harper's Ferry, was seized and made prisoner. The guard thus removed, Brown and his men quietly took possession of the armory buildings in which were stored a large quantity of arms and ammunition, and hither a number of people living in the vicinity were brought and confined as prisoners.

18. State Troops on the Scene.—At daylight next morning messengers were sent to the neighboring towns and by noon military companies began to arrive. The first to reach the scene was from Charles Town, the county-seat of Jefferson. Then came two companies from Martinsburg and the Arsenal was stormed and a desultory discharge of guns kept up until nightfall, when five persons had been killed by the fire of the insurgents, while three of their number lay dead within the arsenal.

19. United States Troops Arrive.—Late on the evening of the 17th, messengers bore dispatches beyond the damage to the wires, which Brown had taken the precaution to have cut, and transmitted them to Baltimore, Washington, Richmond and other places, at all of which the telegrams produced the wildest excitement. Colonel Robert E. Lee—afterward General Lee—with one hundred United States Marines, was dispatched from Washington to the scene of

action. Upon his arrival he sent Lieutenant J. E. B. Stewart to demand an immediate surrender. With this demand the insurgents refused to comply and an attack was at once made upon the building, which resulted in the capture of Brown and several of his followers, all of whom were forced to surrender at the point of the bayonet.

20. Trial and Execution.—Brown was so severely wounded that it was thought he could not live, but he



ANDREW HUNTER.*

grew better after receiving medical aid. An indictment for treason and murder was found against him, and his trial began at Charles Town on October 26th. The Governor appointed Judge Andrew Hunter to assist Charles W. Harding in the prosecution, and Judge Parker named George Lamont and Lawson Botts as counsel for the de-

fense. Brown was found guilty, condemned and executed December 2nd, 1859. Six of his companions were also executed; four on the 16th ensuing, and two on March 16th, 1860.

*Andrew Hunter, whom Governor Wise appointed to assist in the prosecution of John Brown and his associates, was an eminent lawyer of Charles Town, now West Virginia. He was born at Martinsburg, Berkeley county, in the year 1804, and died in 1888.